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Champion
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Doreen Lavin (right) and her sister Sheila Marley at the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace

Royal invite for village lollipop lady

A LONG-SERVING West Lancs lollipop lady who recently received civic recognition for her contribution to road safety in the borough has now received the Royal seal of approval to add to the honour.

Doreen Lavin, 70, from Burscough, was invited to the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace having been anonymously nominated for her 38 years of dedicated service in West Lancashire.

Since October 1983, in all weathers, Doreen Lavin has been helping pupils from Burscough's three primary schools to safely cross the road in her role as a school crossing patrol officer.

Last summer, she was presented with a framed certificate and a bouquet of flowers by Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancs, Councillor Neil and Mrs Julie Furey, at a special reception in the mayor's room attended by family and friends.

Donning her frock and fascinator she travelled down to London, accompanied by her sister Sheila Marley. Once inside, Doreen mingled with over 8,000 guests and was offered tea, finger-sandwiches and slices of cakes.

Present at the party was the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge, and Princess Eugenie.

Every year The Queen hosts parties at the palace as a way to recognise and reward public service.

The appreciated lollipop lady said: "It was beautiful and the food was marvellous!"

STREET PASTOR 71, ASSAULTED IN GANG BRAWL

Pensioner knocked unconscious when fighting broke out between revellers in Ormskirk town centre

A 71-YEAR-OLD pensioner who was volunteering with Ormskirk Street Pastors last Saturday night, was knocked unconscious during a violent incident in the town centre.

The woman is said to have tried to intervene in an altercation between two groups on Derby Street at about 10.25pm.

She was knocked unconscious and was taken to Southport Hospital. Thankfully, the woman was sent home the following day. The pensioner has not been identified but is known to be a member of an Ormskirk church.

Dave Mutch, co-ordinator of Ormskirk Street Pastors, told the Champion it was the first time one of the members had been hurt, but the group would continue with their work as before.

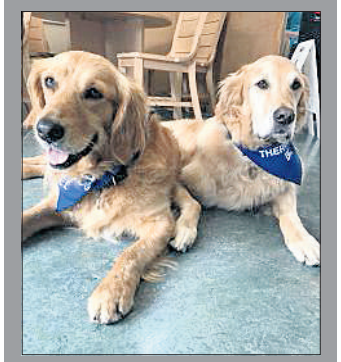
Report by **Kenny Parker**

He said: "One of our lady street pastors was assaulted and knocked out on Saturday night as she was serving the community with other team members.

"She was discharged from Southport Hospital at 10am on Sunday morning and is recovering at home. **Continued inside**

INSIDE THIS WEEK...

Gymnasts on world title trail



Dogs help lift spirits at hospital

CROSSWORD
See Page 32

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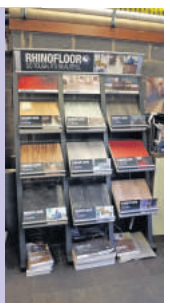

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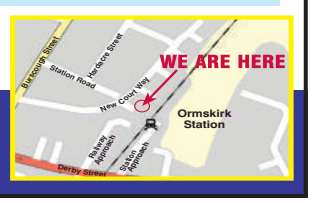

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Four-legged friends help lift spirits at mental health unit

A VOLUNTEER from Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust and her two furry friends have been lifting the spirits of patients at an inpatient mental health unit in Ormskirk.

Zac and Izabel, the trust's golden retriever therapy dogs, have been helping people with mental health problems to increase their social activity, reduce stress and feel happier in order to support their recovery.

The dogs are regular visitors to patients at the Scarisbrick Unit at Ormskirk Hospital as part of their occupational therapy session held on a Thursday morning.

The unit provides care and treatment for adult service users who are showing signs and symptoms of acute functional mental illness.

Therapy dogs Zac and Izabel

Brainchild

Zac and Izabel help the patients to find purpose and motivation by taking part in activities, providing comfort and encouraging communication and engagement. Patients have the opportunity to play, groom and stroke the dogs and activities include walking around the unit and also using paint and the dogs paws to create pieces of artwork.

The project is the brainchild of Gemma Conway, a healthcare support worker for the trust, who came up with the idea after seeing a dog therapy charity at an event she went to. She got in touch with the charity in order to arrange for dogs to visit the unit, and now almost seven years later the facility has its own trust therapy dogs and volunteer Anne.

Gemma said: "The dog therapy session has been running at the Scarisbrick Unit at Ormskirk Hospital for almost seven years and is a huge success with our patients. We hold the session every Thursday and it really is one of the highlights of the week.

"Just bringing the dogs on to the ward, can change the whole dynamic, we have found that they can often diffuse difficult situations and also get patients engaging in ways that they may not have done before.

"The dogs really do brighten up the day and improve the wellbeing of our patients and also the staff who are working here too.

"Having the provision to provide this therapeutic activity has brought everyone together and has also broken down the wall that is sometimes there between staff and patients. Often it can trigger a reminder of a pet that a patient may have at home, this really does bring them good memories and a reason to get well and return home.

"The initiative really is of such benefit to everyone here and we look forward to supporting other teams to roll this out across the organisation!"

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Street pastor knocked unconscious in town centre gang brawl

From page 1

"This is the first such incident Ormskirk Street Pastors has encountered since we started our patrols in January 2011.

"We will continue to 'Listen, Care and Help' people on the streets of Ormskirk every weekend."

The street pastors are part of an international organisation first formed in London in 2003 which aims to help keep towns and cities safe at night by providing a presence and pastoral support.

The Ormskirk street pastors are volunteers from local churches. They are given training and led by a local coordinator usually patrol the streets of the town from 10pm to 4am on a Friday and Saturday night to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets.

The group has the support of local churches and community groups and works in partnership with the police, local council and other statutory agencies.

Last year, then Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil Furey, accompanied the Ormskirk street pastors to get first hand experience of what they do.

Last year's Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey joined members of the Ormskirk Street Pastors on a walkabout through the town centre on a Saturday night.

He said afterwards: "The street pastors do a fantastic job of helping to keep Ormskirk safe - they can be very proud of their role in our community."

A spokesperson for North West Ambulance Service said that details were uncertain but a crew was sent to Wetherspoons Pub on Wheatsheaf Walk, Ormskirk, at 11pm on Saturday June 16.

A spokesperson for Lancashire Police said: "We were called at about 10.25pm on Saturday to reports of an altercation between two groups (up to 10 in total) on Derby Street in Ormskirk.

"During the altercation a 71-year-old woman who had tried to intervene was unfortunately knocked unconscious. She has since recovered. An investigation is on-going and any witnesses are asked to call police on 101 quoting log number 1669 of June 16."

Anti-fracking group in appeal for funds to help it fight plans for shale gas mining

Report by **Kenny Parker**

ANTI-FRACKING campaign group Moss Alliance is appealing for donations to pay for expert advice as it builds its case against the proposed mining for shale gas at Altcar Moss.

A recent pubic meeting of Frack Free Formby, which is part of Moss Alliance, held at Formby's Gild Hall, was said by the group's John Wilkinson to have generated lively debate.

Residents were told about the results of a survey of the narrow access track (Sutton's Lane) leading to the proposed well pad and shown photographs of its surface.

Mr Wilkinson said the audience appreciated the difficulties of getting heavy goods vehicles into and out of the proposed well pad, and the prospect of traffic backing up and blocking the adjoining Lord Sefton Way (B5195).

Concern was also expressed, he said, about the effect of the extra traffic on the narrow bridge over the River Alt on the boundary between Sefton and Lancashire, and around the junction on the Formby by-pass leading to the Tesco store.

The meeting also heard about the respiratory problems that it is claimed can affect people and the ways that fracking could add to local air pollution. Mr Wilkinson said comparisons were drawn with experience in the USA where fracking for shale gas is widespread and health concerns are mounting.

These issues were accompanied with references to the impact fracking could have on the local ecology and habitat. Aurora is required to submit a planning application to Lancashire County Council by September 30 and drill its wells there within the next two years.

The company has not responded to a request for comment on the issues raised at the Gild Hall meeting.

Suttons Lane, which could be an access road to Aurora's proposed shale gas mining operation in Altcar Moss. Campaigners say it will be difficult for the narrow lane to carry the heavy traffic to the site.

John Wilkinson

● As part of its fundraising efforts, the group has organised a barn dance to take place at Haskayne Village Hall, School Lane, Haskayne, on Friday July 13 between 7.30pm and 11pm, which also includes 'ploughmans food' and raffles. The cost is £10. For more information and tickets contactthemossalliance@gmail.com. Visitors need to take their own drinks.

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Some of the quilts donated to Ormskirk Hospital

Rotary club and local quilters team up to give comfort to sick children

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THE Rotary Club of Ormskirk Clocktower has given its support to a group of local quilt makers using their skills to benefit sick babies and children.

The quilters had approached the club to ask for financial support for a new venture to make quilts for newborn babies and youngsters receiving treatment atOrmskirk Hospital.

The first batch of 50 quilts has been delivered to the staff on the neo-natal unit at the hospital and were gratefully received.

Now the next batch of quilts are underway and it is hoped to make at least 100 a year so each baby can be given a hand-made quilt.

The project is linked to the international charity The Linus Project, which began in the US when founder Karen Loucks read a newspaper article about how much a comfort blanket had helped a child cancer victim.

Sue Wilson, president of The Rotary Club of Ormskirk Clocktower, said: "It's often a very stressful time when your son or daughter is ill, so we wanted to show families that the local community care.

"The local quilters have done a fantastic job of making beautiful hand-made quilts which will be used on the babies' cots while they are in hospital and taken home with them when they are discharged."

If you would like to help in any way with this project, get in touch via the Rotary Club of Ormskirk Clocktower website and use the contact menu.

The quilting group would appreciate donations so they can buy fabric and thread and would welcome the help of anyone who can sew.

Sue Wilson added: "Many hands make light work, so get in touch."

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Borough council reveals its new three-year plan

Report by **Henry James**

Authority chiefs say the aim is to build on the 'significant achievements' of last three years

WEST Lancs Council has revealed its new Council Plan for 2018/19-2020/21 setting out its vision, priorities and key projects for the next three years.

Council chiefs say the plan shows its ambitions for the whole borough targeting the economy, the environment and health and wellbeing.

The latest three-year plan follows the authority's 2015 blueprint which council chiefs say has seen "significant achievements" which it plans to build on.

Among the key successes of the 2015 plan claimed by the council are the following.

- Working with partners to create the Skelmersdale Ambassadors Network which encourages business to business engagement, business growth in the town and its promotion as a business location.
- Improving the council's housing stock with more than 3,000 homes having had one or more of the following fitted - new kitchens, bathrooms, roofs, windows, doors and heating systems.
- Launching a Health and Wellbeing Strategy aiming to ensure West Lancashire residents can lead healthy and fulfilling lives.
- Purchasing the Wheatsheaf Walks shops as part of its progress on the Ormskirk Town Centre Strategy.
- Installing solar panels on 588 of its homes to help tenants save money on energy bills.
- Opening the new Greenwood Business Centre.
- Completing the £8 million Firbeck Revival Project, which included the building of 42 new homes.
- Progressing the building of 36 new homes in Beechtrees, Digmoor, and a further 27 homes in the heart of Ormskirk.
- Using Community Infrastructure Levy monies raised from developers to help projects across the borough, including schemes to improve the play area at Stanley Coronation Park, Skelmersdale and the playing field facilities at Whittle Drive, Ormskirk; canal towpath improvements in Burscough and rural community projects.

Councillor Ian Moran

- Moving ahead with the Tawd Valley Park Masterplan.

Other 'notable accomplishments' listed by the council include receiving the highest possible rating for its website from industry experts the Society of Chief Information Technology Managers (SOCITM), in the 2017/18 annual survey.

And council chiefs say all this has been achieved against the backdrop of increasing financial pressures and amid reductions in Government funding which has seen the authority carry out several million pounds worth of savings and income measures over the last three years.

Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "West Lancashire is an ambitious council and we are committed to important projects that will benefit the borough and everyone who lives and works here and visits the area. Our new plan sets out our priorities as we plan our work for the next three years."

The new plan lists three main priorities and sets out how these can be achieved.

1. Delivering tangible and visible improvements in the borough, by:

- Completing the current review of the Local Plan.
- Developing new leisure facilities as health and leisure hubs for the borough.
- Delivering retail, housing and public realm improvements with a focus on Skelmersdale Town Centre.
- Establishing a Development Company, subject to the business case, to accelerate the build of housing and commercial property for rent and sale.

2. Engaging and empowering the local communities, by:

- Delivering the Masterplan for Tawd Valley Park, subject to resources, involving the community in planning and delivering improvements.
- Piloting volunteer engagement at Abbey Lakes, and exploring opportunities to roll out this approach to other countryside parks in the borough.
- Facilitating the asset transfer of existing leisure facilities in North Meols, working with the owners of this facility and local communities.
- Delivering digital inclusion initiatives, to encourage self-service and further strengthen customer service.

3. Actively promoting the borough as a great place to live, work, visit and invest, by:

- Promoting the council's role and West Lancashire's achievements through a new digital communications strategy, complementing traditional approaches.
- Rolling out 'place branding' and continuing to develop the websites for Ormskirk and Skelmersdale.
- Continuing to engage with Liverpool City Region and Lancashire authorities, to bring benefits to West Lancashire.
- Engaging businesses and communities in enhancing and promoting Ormskirk, Burscough and Skelmersdale, including through the Ormskirk Town Centre Management Group and Skelmersdale Place Board.

Arriva willing to discuss changes to 375 bus route

ARRIVA has offered to meet up with local councillors to discuss proposed changes to its 375 bus service route following criticism by West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper.

The bus company said it had followed normal procedure in altering the route of the Southport to Wigan service and said that many customers were happy with the changes while adding that the area 'dropped' from the route is covered by another bus service.

Changes to the route were scheduled to take effect from Sunday, July 22.

Rosie Cooper had criticised Arriva's decision to re-route the 375 bus service away from Grimshaw Lane in Ormskirk, saying that many residents, had contacted her with concerns over the changes.

She said the company had failed to communicate with herself, borough councillors or residents about the proposed changes.

And she has called on Arriva to carry out further consultation and research before arriving at a final decision on whether changes are needed or not.

In response an Arriva spokesperson commented: "We can confirm that the normal procedure to inform Lancashire County Council about a route change was followed, and that the areas on the number 375 route that have been removed are still served by service number 6.

"Since the changes were announced we have received numerous comments from customers expressing their delight at the new connection to Ringtail Retail Park. However, we would be happy to meet with any councillors if they would like to discuss this alteration further."

Ms Cooper has been asked for comment.

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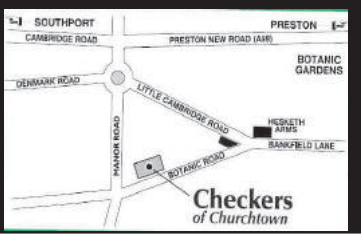

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Thousands to be spent on making lakes 'more attractive'

WEST Lancs Council has approved funding of up to £15,000 to be spent on making the Abbey Lakes site in Up Holland "a more attractive, accessible and enjoyable place to visit."

The authority's Ranger Service has been working at the site with charity ED Homes which helps ex-service personnel back into mainstream living.

The council's cabinet on Tuesday, June 12 agreed the proposals to use Section 106 monies to make improvements at Abbey Lakes.

Developers pay Section 106 money to the council to pay for community and social infrastructure.

Volunteers from ED Homes have been co-ordinated by the Rangers to help them to enhance the site and it is hoped in the future there will be a group/club to fish the lake and help manage the site.

The Ranger Service make sure all the volunteers follow the health and safety protocol and they have to carry out risk assessments, training and have insurance cover.

Since November, the volunteers have been engaged on a trial basis.

Successful

In a council report for the cabinet meeting the director of leisure and environment services at West Lancs Council, Heidi McDougall, writes: "This trial has been very successful and a programme of works has now been established for the summer period, including improvements to access and car parking, enhanced pathways, and improvements to the fishing platforms and fishing facilities."

The Ranger Service will oversee the programme of works and on-going maintenance will be carried out by the volunteer group and the Rangers. It is hoped the initial trial will become a permanent arrangement. The S106 monies will be allocated as follows: Access lane and car park - £8,000; boardwalk and bridges - £5,000; fishing platforms £2,000.

In the report the council director adds: "These improvements will contribute towards making Abbey Lakes a more attractive, accessible and enjoyable place to visit for the residents of Up Holland and West Lancashire."

Councillor resigns after just six weeks

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A NEWLY elected Labour councillor has resigned... just six weeks after being elected.

Michelle Aldridge was elected councillor for Knowsley Ward at the Local Council Elections held on Thursday May 3 after securing 1,014 votes.

Her rivals - Jeffrey Vernon of the Conservative Party and Kate Mitchell from Our West Lancashire won 673 and 306 votes respectively.

The Labour Party group in West Lancashire says that Ms Aldridge has stepped down due to personal commitments.

Michelle Aldridge

Among the activities undertaken by Ms Aldridge in her brief role was to assist with a program providing free healthy breakfasts to school children in Skelmersdale as part of a well-being initiiatve.

Held at Southway Library, she arranged the creative activities.

A spokesperson for West Lancs Labour said: "Michelle Aldridge has resigned her position as a borough councillor due to personal commitments and is standing aside now in order to allow someone else to take on the role of representing the residents of Knowsley Ward."

A date for a by-election in Knowsley Ward is yet to be confirmed..

Village set for heritage weekend

BURSCOUGH'S annual heritage festival is taking place this weekend and visitors are asked to get in the spirit of the event by dressing up in period costume.

Now in its eighth year the Burscough Heritage Group's nostalgia extravaganza will see Bursocugh Wharf courtyard filled with displays, stalls and vintage vehicles reflecting the history and heritage of Burscough village and the 1940s, while the George, a restored wooden coal barge, will be moored on the canal and open for visitors.

Entertainment will be provided by 1940s-style singer, The Lancashire Belle.

The ever-popular raft race will again be staged on the Sunday.

Colin Wareing from the Burscough Heritage Group said: "All visitors are being asked to join in the fun by dressing up as though it was the 1940s or by taking part in the raft race on the Sunday which will start at The Slipway on Crabtree Lane at about 2pm."

An entry fee is required for the raft race to cover insurance but any profits will be donated to charity. All the other events are free.

To enter the raft race contact 01695 576844. More information is available on the Burscough Heritage Group and Burscough Wharf Facebook pages.

Walk will help raise awareness of loneliness

A walk is to take place this Saturday (June 23) to raise awareness of loneliness and social isolation.

Setting out from Burscough Football Club UCAN Trust (United Community Action Network) has organised a six kilometre walk by the canal finishing at the Bridge Pub.

The event is free and starts at 11am. There will be opportunity to donate to charities Mind, Alzheimer's Society and Scope.

Village Rose Queen Day

TARLETON will be holding its Rose Queen Day this Saturday to raise money for Mere Brow and Holy Trinity Primary Schools.

Taking place behind Holy Trinity Church Tarleton, Rose Queen Day is a traditional village celebration with a brass band, maypole dancing, BBQ, tearoom, games, stalls and entertainment starting at 1pm.

The new Rose Queen is 12-year-old Rosie Samuels, a pupil at Bishop Rawstorne CofE Academy.

Rebels to play concert for cancer research

GIG4LIFE, a joint venture between local rock bands and Cancer Research will be holding another fundraising concert at St George's, Station Road, Maghull on Friday, June 29.

The event will feature regular bands The Rockin' Relics and The Rebels along with guest group called No Name – The Band. Also appearing will be rock vocalist Beryl Prescot.

The Rebels, a rock band from Ormskirk first formed in the 1960s and three of the present line-up are original members - including Keith Hubbard and Roy Smith who also played with 1970s chart-toppers Chicory Tip.

Doors open 7.30 pm gig starts at 8.15 pm. Entrance fee is £5 payable on the door.

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The Human Book Chain in action at Edge Hill University

'Human book chain' celebrates new £27m Catalyst Building

Report by **Kenny Parker**

STAFF, students and children from local schools formed a 'human book chain' at Edge Hill University to celebrate its new £27m Catalyst building.

This symbolic event saw 502 books passed from person to person between the old library and the new facility, in a chain which snaked along the Hub Boulevard.

Some of the first books included into the new building were Edge Hill University history books by Fiona Montomery and Mark Flinn, the anthologies Atlantic Drift and Head Land, both published by Edge Hill University Press and A Conflicted Mind, by Professor Geoff Beattie.

Along the human book chain, musicians and performers helped to keep the books moving to the innovative building at the heart of Edge Hill's campus, which will house the library, careers and student services functions in its contemporary 8,000-square metre space.

Schoolchildren form part of the human book chain

A spokesperson for Edge Hill said: "Catalyst will be an inspiring 24/7 destination for the Edge Hill community with welcoming, knowledgeable staff on hand to support student life, research, learning and career development.

"This 'destination' building will provide a 50% increase in study spaces, with 30 bookable rooms plus two training rooms. Students will get improved access to services with 24-hour opening."

Around 230,000 books will sit on 5,000 shelves and the building's top floor will be a dedicated space for study, silent working and research, with a traditional reading-room feel.

Catalyst will also have a landscaped roof terrace taking in views across the 160-acre campus and beyond.

The ground floor will feature a coffee shop and an exhibition space which will host events and double as a relaxation area.

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Developers' appeal over Burscough homes plan rejected

Council hails 'victory for local democracy'

Report by **Kenny Parker**

DEVELOPERS have lost their appeal over plans to build on land to the north of Meadowbrook in Burscough after failing in their attempt to overturn a decision of West Lancashire Borough Council's planning committee.

This latest 'success' for the council follows a recent similar legal battle fought by the authority over land at Parrs Lane in Aughton.

In the case of the proposed Burscough development, the developers UKLP Estates and Bloor Homes had suggested that the site, which is marked as safeguarded land in the Local Plan, should be brought forward because of a lack of affordable housing.

But after a three-day hearing, the Planning Inspectorate dismissed their application to build 124 homes.

Among reasons for the decision cited by Planning Inspector Paul Singleton, he said it conflicted with the council's Local Plan and the proposal to provide 43 affordable houses did not outweigh that concern.

Councillor John Hodson

In his decision notice he wrote: "I attach significant weight to the harm that would be caused to public confidence in the Local Plan and the plan-led system,"

Council chiefs hailed the decision as a victory for their defence of the Local Plan.

Councillor John Hodson, the council's portfolio holder for planning, said: "This is a fantastic result for local democracy and residents of West Lancashire, particularly those in Burscough.

"When West Lancashire Labour took control of the council, we said that we would support residents by insisting that commitments outlined under the Master Planning expertise be honoured.

"Despite repeated attempts by the developers to push ahead with building on this land without any indication of providing those commitments, we have now succeeded in stopping this premature and incomplete planning application.

"This result helps protect the integrity of the current Local Plan and enables us to work on the next plan without fear of further challenges from the developers. It was another excellent decision by the Labour administration to fight the appeal, given the possible outcome, but one we felt was necessary to protect the Local Plan and ensure that residents' views were clearly heard.

"I would like to congratulate the officers of the council, who prepared such a robust defence in the face of well-resourced and determined developers looking to circumvent the existing Local Plan. I would also like to thank our legal representatives, fellow Labour councillors and the local residents who provided evidence. We are delighted that their views have been acknowledged and supported in the outcome of the appeal."

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A scarecrow has his say about the state of the roads in Barton

'Pothole hell' is the last straw for scarecrows!

This year's festival turns out to be the most political yet!

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THERE has undoubtedly been some deviation in the job description at this year's Halsall Scarecrow Festival after some of the colourful characters managed to make a political statement!

Taking place over two days, some of the eye-catching scarecrows included a tribute to Ken Dodd, a World Cup themed creation with England captain Harry Kane lifting the trophy, and even video game character Mario.

However, others were used for more political reasons, with a scarecrow used to campaign against fracking and another against potholes!

Halsall is near to Altcar Moss, where energy company Aurora has applied to mine for shale gas. The festival also gave residents nearby Station Road, Barton, an opportunity for an unusual protest of their own against the county council about the state of the road surface.

A scarecrow was mounted next to the cavernous potholes on the road, displaying the sign: "Pothole hell."

The issue of potholes has been a contentious issue for motorists in West Lancashire over the past few years.

Local resident Stephen Henders claims: "The surface is entirely broken down to the original cobbled track.

"All we have had over the past eight years are blobs of tarmac in the biggest holes which crumble within five months."

Lancashire County has been asked for comment.

Halsall Scarecrow Festival was first held in 2016 and returned due to popular demand last year with even more people taking part in the event.

A spokesperson for Halsall Scarecrow Festival said: "We had a great turn out for our Scarecrow Treasure Trail with around 50 families taking part.

"Many thanks to all those who took part, raising more than £150 for our Halsall Proud and Tidy Group."

Gone but not forgotten. A tribute to Ken Dodd

England captain Harry Kane

One of the vehicles on display by the Merseyside Transport Trust

All aboard for annual heritage vehicle day!

NOSTALGIA lovers have a chance to take a trip down memory lane as Merseyside Transport Trust (MTT) holds its 7th Annual Open Day on Sunday, July 8.

Organised to raise funds for the upkeep of its fleet of over 50 historic vehicles, this is a rare and unique opportunity to see a vast collection of buses (and a train) in various stages of restoration.

The event will be held at MTT's base off Tollgate Road, Burscough.

Doors open from 10:30am until 4.30pm.

MTT is a registered charity set up in 1999 to bring together people with a common interest in saving, restoring and preserving historic vehicles and associated items from the Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive and other operators within the Merseyside Area.

The open day, which follows a display of buses in Liverpool as part of the Light Night festival, will feature bus rides around the surrounding area, serving local pubs, several scenic West Lancashire villages and supporting local businesses.

There will be numerous vehicles on display including visiting vehicles from other preservation groups, sales stands and talks given about the group's latest projects and how people can become involved.

Entry is free and light refreshments will be available with all proceeds going to the charity.

For more information about the open day see website www.mttrust.co.uk

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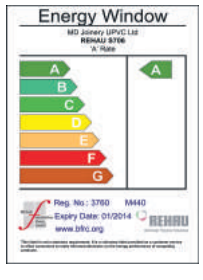

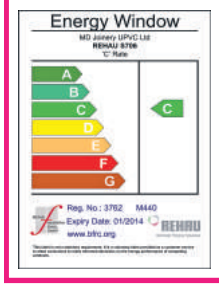

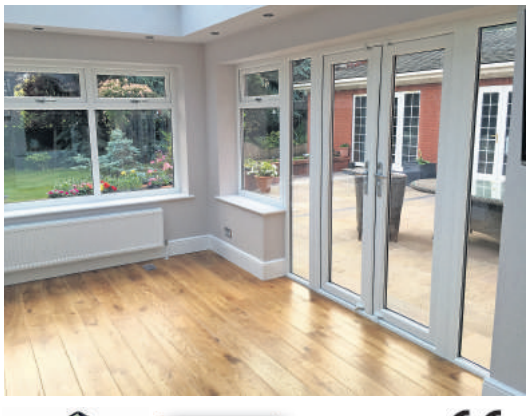

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Young gymnasts beat odds to earn US world championships tilt

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A TEAM of talented young gymnasts from West Lancashire have overcome the odds to win a place at an international contest in America.

Despite limited resources, the Dazzlers Gymnastics Club, which meets at Our Lady Queen of Peace High School, Skelmersdale and Burscough Sports Centre, have excelled at regional and national competitions to earn the right to compete at the Independent Association of Independent Gymnastics Clubs (IAIGC) World Championships in Florida next week.

Members of the club will take part in the championships at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress resort in Orlando from June 23 to 30.

Head coach, Shelly Murphy, who runs the group, says the IAIGC prides itself on giving opportunities to a wide variety of different level gymnasts and not just the elite. And she says that although her gymnasts might not be elite, their achievements are a credit to themselves considering the limited training and equipment which they have access to.

To take part in the trip to the US each of the children had to obtain a qualifying score at IAIGC competitions held in the North West and Milton Keynes.

Shelly said: "Our little club did themselves proud at each stage and also brought home some medals. We were up against some big clubs that have fully-kitted gym centres, while our girls train on mats and an old-style box and only get one hour per week on the full-size beam and bars during their weekly session at Burscough.

"Despite this, we have always had a reputation for producing good results and that's down to the sheer determination of our gymnasts and staff."

The competing gymnasts come from Aughton, Ormskirk, Skelmersdale, Burscough and Rufford and the proud coach added: "This will be our first overseas competition and an exciting achievement for such a small club. I hope to offer more children this amazing experience in the coming years."

Talented youngsters from the Dazzlers Gymnastics Club who will take part in the IAIGC World Championships in Florida

The club have held a number of fundraising events to finance the trip, including bag-packing at a Tesco store, a performance at Skelmersdale's Birch Green Care home and fundraising at Funfactor in Maghull. One of the girls' parents also completed 4,251 sponsored burpees in 24 hours - equivalent to the number of miles between the Dazzlers Club and Orlando!

Shelly said: "It was a massive achievement and the support was amazing and heartwarming. Any other donations towards our world trip or new equipment for the club would be much appreciated."

To get in touch with the club email dazzlersgymnasticsclub@hotmail.co.uk.

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Don’t kill baby birds with kindness, says RSPB

KIND-hearted bird lovers could be in danger of harming baby birds - simply by trying to help them survive!

With the nesting season fully upon us, Chris Collett, spokesperson for the RSPB Northern England, warned: “At this time of year we get hundreds of calls from well-meaning members of the public about the seemingly helpless baby birds they’ve discovered on the ground.

“But it’s vital that people resist the urge to intervene – this is a natural part of the bird’s development, so keep calm and step away.

“Just before baby birds are ready to tentatively extend a wing, wiggle a tail feather and take flight for the first time, they leave their nest – ‘fledge’ as it’s called. Fledglings then spend a couple of days on the ground and around the nest developing their final flight feathers. The fledglings will appear fully feathered and hop around your garden in broad daylight – hence why members of the public are convinced they need rescuing.”

Chris continued: “Another common fear is that the fledgling has been deserted by its parents. But fledglings are extremely unlikely to be abandoned. Mum and dad are probably off gathering food or hiding nearby with a beady eye on their young, waiting for you to leave.

“Parents know best and are the experts in rearing their young. Removing a fledgling from the wild significantly reduces its chances of long-term survival - so please don’t ‘kidnap’ the baby bird, even in a well-meaning way.”

A baby great tit

There are only a couple of situations when the public should lend a friendly helping hand.

If the baby bird is found on a busy road or path, and if it is safe to do so, the baby bird should be picked up and moved a short distance to a safer place - this must be within hearing distance of where the fledgling was found.

Similarly, if you discover your cat or dog eyeing up a fledgling we recommend that you keep your domestic pet indoors for a couple of days, or at least around dawn and dusk.

If an injured fledgling is discovered this should be reported immediately to the RSPCA on 0300 1234 999. Sometimes local vets treat wild birds for free, but please check with them first. If a baby bird is discovered on the ground that is either unfeathered or covered only in its fluffy nestling down, it has likely fallen out of its cosy nest ahead of schedule. Very occasionally it is possible to put these babies back in their nest, but only if you are 100% sure of the nest it has fallen from.

Chris added: “However, sometimes a parent bird will intentionally eject a chick from the nest if they sense it has an underlying health problem or is dying. It’s a harsh truth to stomach, as humans we want to fix things, but sometimes we need to allow the law of nature to run its course.”

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Residents urged: 'Don't miss your chance to vote in council by-election'

VOTERS living in West Lancashire Council's Hesketh-with-Becconsall Ward will go to the polls on Thursday, July 19 for a by-election to elect a new councillor following the resignation of Councillor Paul Moon.

If you live in the ward and are registered to vote, you can still vote even if you can't get to a polling station on the day by applying for a postal vote or a proxy vote, where someone you nominate can vote on your behalf.

Kim Webber Returning Officer for the forthcoming Hesketh-with-Becconsall council by-election.

Kim Webber, Returning Officer for the by-election, said: "You don't need to be away or be housebound to apply for a postal or a proxy vote.

"Contact the council as soon as you can and make sure you can vote in this Hesketh-with-Becconsall ward by-election.

"Anyone who wants to vote in this election, either by post, proxy or going to the polling station, must be on the Electoral Register."

Details of the applications process are as follows:

Register to Vote

Hesketh-with-Becconsall ward residents who received poll cards for, or voted in, the May 2018 borough council elections do not need to register again to vote in the by-election.

If in doubt, people can check whether they're registered to vote by calling the council's elections office on 01695 585014.

You can fill in an online registration by visiting https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. For more information email elections.office@west-lancs.gov.uk. If you do not have access to the Internet ask the elections office for a paper registration form to be sent to you.

The closing date to register to vote in the by-election is Tuesday, July 3.

Postal or Proxy Votes

To apply for a postal or proxy vote form call the elections office on 01695 585014, email elections.office@westlancs.gov.uk or download an application form from www.west-lancs.gov.uk/howtovote. Alternatively you can call in to the council offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk.

Completed application forms for a postal vote must reach the council by 5pm on Wednesday, July 4 and completed application forms for a proxy vote must arrive by 5pm on Wednesday, July 11.

Emergency Proxy Votes

Applications to vote by emergency proxy at these elections can be applied for on grounds of physical incapacity, where that physical incapacity occurred after 5pm on Wednesday, July 11; or for work/service reasons again occurring after the same date; and must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire, L39 2DF by 5pm on Thursday, July 19.

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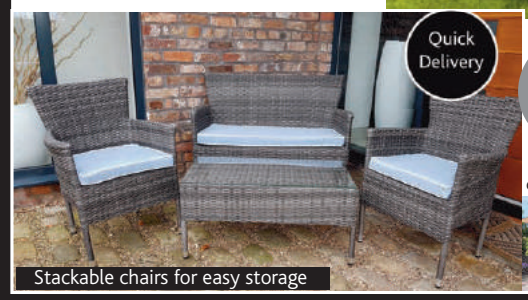

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Police warn football fans to enjoy World Cup 'responsibly'

Report by **Henry James**

FOOTBALL fans are being reminded not to get carried away in the heat of the moment as they support England in the World Cup.

Lancashire Constabulary and Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw have teamed up to urge fans to enjoy the games responsibly.

Supt Julian Platt, of Lancashire Constabulary, said: "We want people to enjoy the World Cup responsibly and the vast majority of people will do that but I want to reassure our communities that any crime linked with the World Cup, be that domestic abuse, alcohol induced violence or drink or drug driving will simply not be tolerated.

"Great progress has been made in combating racism and discrimination in football over recent years through a strong partnership between all those involved with the game.

"But we know that hate crimes are motivated not only by race but by hostility or prejudice against an identifiable group such as religion, sexual orientation, transgender, disability, age or gender.

Supintendent Julian Platt

"We understand that people will want to drink alcohol while watching the games but we would urge people to drink responsibly and of course drinking or taking drugs when driving is unacceptable.

"Our efforts to catch those responsible will continue in a bid to make our roads safer.

"Just one drink or drug driver on the roads of Lancashire is always one too many. We will continue to carry out regular enforcement activity and take action against those who continue to break the law."

Supt Platt added: "In the past there has been a small minority of supporters across the country who have engaged in football related disorder at home and abroad.

"Lancashire as part of a national response have visited those individuals and removed their passports where we have had the power to do so. We will continue to be part of this joined up approach throughout the tournament."

A total of 69 banning orders are in place in Lancashire. Under the terms of these orders the majority must surrender their passports before the start of the tournament to prevent them travelling.

Posters and banners are highlighting three key areas of crime that are often associated with major sporting tournaments: domestic abuse, alcohol related violence and drink or drug driving.

Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw said: "Domestic abuse is unacceptable and stopping it requires society as a whole to take a stand against it.

"We know that over 90% of incidents are witnessed by children so the awareness raised through campaigns like this plays an important role in encouraging and supporting people to take that first step."

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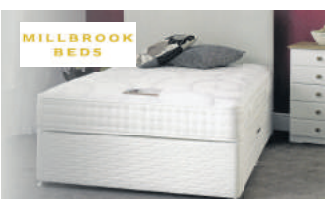

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
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Supporters of Lathom solar farm proposal have no idea about significance of site

I REFER to the letter from Tim Smith (Champion, June 6) yet again someone who does not live in Lathom and yet again another NSG employee!

The only supporters of this application are NSG staff. I really wonder if Mr Smith has any idea regarding the proposed site.

He states the solar application has helped us remember the Remount Centre.

Lathom residents know the history of the Remount Centre it has been passed down through family members over the years who worked there.

Lathom Park Trust published an excellent book and the War Horse walk provides more memories.

Had Mr Smith taken the trouble to view the site he would know that any memorial at the site is a complete waste of time as you would have to trespass on private property to see it!

Mr Smith mentions fracking, rather difficult access on this field! Coal mining?

I don't think so, according to Orion who wrote the report there are very small deposits of coal so another waste of time.

I think before NSG staff write any more letters they should at least get their facts right.

I wonder if Mr Smith is aware how Lightsource, the developer, operate. At a meeting with concerned neighbours the head of planning at Lightsource went into floods of tears when questioned about a map!

Also, they could only arrange a meeting at certain times as they were only allowed to travel 'off peak' on the train!

Does that inspire confidence in a company running such a large, controversial development in historic Lathom? I think not.

Mr Earl, Lathom

Shocked by closure threat to Brighter Futures Workshop

I READ with shock that the Brighter Futures Workshop may have to close in the near future due to lack of funding.

I have both bought from, and donated to them, many items and have met some of the lovely young men and women there who thoroughly enjoy their work.

There is little enough provision for adults with learning difficulties, not only in Lancashire but also in the country, so the closure will hit many families in the area, leaving vulnerable adults stuck at home.

I would, however, like to make an observation on the article where Brighter Futures refers to the "training of young people with physical or learning disabilities." In actual fact, as there isn't any Government funding for these vulnerable adults, they actually pay £55 per session to be 'trained' at Brighter Futures.

They are not paid as the word 'trainee' would suggest, but must pay to attend on a daily basis. In essence that would calculate to a 'trainee' who attends foour sessions a week having to pay £220 out of their benefits.

I realise that there are staff who supervise who obviously need to be paid a wage, but I think the word 'trainee' is misleading in as much as they pay and are not paid, for their hard work.

Once again I sincerely hope for the sake of those adults with physical and learning difficulties who attend, that Brighter Futures Workshop will be able to remain open.

Concerned reader, Ormskirk, by email.

Anti-car lobby must shoulder much of blame for demise of country's High Streets

WHAT was most obvious to me watching TV reports of the fall of the House of Fraser was that most of their soon-to-be-closed stores are situated in pedestrianised streets with no parking.

I haven't shopped in my local department store in more than 25 years due to the impossibility of getting my car within several hundred yards of the front door - preferring to frequent out-of-town malls with a superfluity of free and convenient parking.

It must be nice for the Green anti-car lobby to smugly walk and cycle past the shuttered shops of our High Streets the death of which are largely due to their blinkered efforts.

John Eoin Douglas, by email

PICTURE of the week

Passing the book: Edge Hill University enlisted help of local schoolchildren to form a 'human book chain' passing books from the old library to a new one which will be located in the new Catalyst building. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Inconsiderate dog owners and a lack of bins are blighting our countryside

I HAVE compiled a 'photo album' of more than 20 dog poo bags that have clearly been left for all to see and to blight the countryside and our roads in Ormskirk and Aughton.

You can multiply by many times the amount of bags that I and other people have picked up and put in bins not 100 yards away from where they were dumped or at most half-a-mile away.

Having said this, I don't think there are enough bins on the streets. In fact, some have been removed.

P. C., details supplied

NHS doing a great job against all the odds

AFTER calling 111 the paramedics took my husband to the A&E department at Southport Hospital.

Understandably, we had to wait, but the staff were excellent and had a good rapport with each other.

The overnight staff in the observation ward were very caring and even went the extra mile delivering medication that was left behind when we went home.

Thank-you NHS you do a great job, even against all the odds. We value you.

Grateful, Skelmersdale, name and address supplied

Drop us a line

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Why not just put all recyclables in one bin?

I WOULD like to respond to last week's comments made by H. Pennington (Letters, June 13) regarding blue boxes being 'no longer fit for purpose'.

Whilst I agree that it is unacceptable and unsightly to see the contents of the blue boxes being blown all over the place, it is unfair to blame it on the blue box alone.

I regularly see grey bins overflowing with rubbish including cardboard (that the owners can't be bothered recycling) and H. Pennington surely appreciates that even 'sturdy bins' are susceptible to being blown over in really strong winds, as well as taking themselves off down the road!

I think Councillor Owens was simply trying to highlight that not every Ormskirk resident has the luxury of enough space to accommodate yet another ugly bin.

I can't see why the council doesn't adopt Sefton's policy whereby all recyclables, including cardboard, are put in one bin.

Simples!

K.M., by email

Speed cameras needed on village 'race track' road - before it's too late

RED Cat Lane in Burscough, although restricted to 20 mph and despite traffic calming measures, is constantly used as a race track by commuters passing through.

There has recently been a tragic accident involving a commuter exiting Red Cat Lane onto the main road.

Please can I ask the police to take action to stop this potentially fatal behaviour?

Can we have some speed cameras installed or other effective measure?

Before it's too late.

Roderick Green,
Back Lane, Burscough

What next - a revision of traffic lights?

RUMOUR has it the visionary behind the green bin, brown bin, blue sky breakthrough, is looking to revise traffic lights so that green becomes stop and red becomes go.

If so, I think we deserve to be told.

Frank Power,
Merewood, Skelmersdale

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'Alternative Ascot' date for civic couple

THE Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney and Mrs Ann Stubert, will attend an 'Alternative Ascot Day' to be held at the Lancashire Manor Hotel in Prescott Road, Up Holland on Thursday, June 21 from noon.

Got a story? Ring the Champion News Desk on 01704 392400

Just the ticket for our competition winners

THE winners of our competition to win a pair of tickets to see *An Officer and A Gentleman* at the Liverpool Empire were: Marion Connelly from Burscough; Jean House from Southport; V. Larkin from Ainsdale; Stephen Marriot from Waterloo; and Mrs Laura Forshaw from Skelmersdale.

And winners of our competition to win a pair of tickets to see *Some Guys Have All The Luck – The Rod Stewart Story* at Southport Theatre were Alan Cureton from Crosby; Lyn Bell from Skelmersdale; and Claire McGauley from Southport.

Congratulations to all.

Champ readers show their love for Taylor!

Report by **Kenny Parker**

THE title of Taylor Swift's chart-topping single *Look What You Made Me Do* might well be said of our young readers when the Champion held a competition to win tickets to see her in concert.

Eight pairs of tickets were up for grabs for the Princess of Pop's visit to Manchester's Etihad Stadium as part of her Reputation Tour.

All entrants had to do was answer the question what is the name of Taylor Swift's fifth studio album, which was released in October, 2014?

The answer was 1989 - but some fans went further than just giving the answer to show their love for their idol.

Thireteen-year-old India Corrin from Skelmersdale showed off her artistic talents by drawing a picture of Taylor on her winning entry, while 12-year-old Freya Douglas from Crossens added Taylor Swift's brand perfume to her entry and used her favourite colour in her art work.

Other winners included Alice Roberts from Up Holland, who also used glitter and coloured gems to make her entry sparkle; Joshua Reais from Formby; Janet Johnson from Burscough; Lindsey Billinge from Bootle; Helen McGarry from Melling; and R. Faragher from Liverpool.

Ten-time Grammy winner Taylor Swift is a singer, songwriter, musician and producer. Her critically-acclaimed sixth studio album, Reputation, topped iTunes album charts in 111 countries and debuted at No. 1 on the Official UK Albums Chart. Selling more than 1.29 million copies in the US on its week of release, it was one of the highest selling albums there in 2017.

Taylor is the only artist in history to have four albums selling more than a million copies in their first week of release in the US - (2010's Speak Now, 2012's RED, 2014's 1989 and Reputation).

Her chart-topping first single, *Look What You Made Me Do*, from her sixth album, Reputation, broke multiple records within hours of its release.

Rolling Stone magazine listed Taylor as one of the 100 Greatest Songwriters of All Time.

India Corrin (and mum) with her winning entry

Freya Douglas (and mum) with her winning ticket to see Taylor Swift

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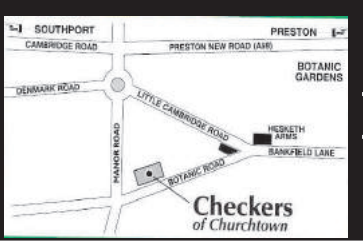

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Aughton man was key player in £12m smuggling racket

AN Aughton man has been named as a key player in a smuggling ring which saw tobacco hidden inside fridges, microwaves and vacuum cleaners to evade £12 million in tax.

Raymond Hughes, 58, of Elmsfield Park, was one of11 gang members jailed for a total of 21 years.

HM Revenue and Customs has now revealed details of the illicit operation after the last of the gang members was sentenced at Manchester Crown Court.

Ringleader Timothy Newman, 51, from Luxembourg, was jailed for four years for conspiracy to cheat the public revenue.

HMRC surveillance revealed the huge fraud was organised from Newman's tobacco outlet in Luxembourg. Investigators observed the smuggling ring at work in a large warehouse where hollow white goods, with no working parts, were being used to smuggle tobacco into the UK. After being emptied here, the cases were returned to the warehouse in Luxembourg to be refilled with more illicit tobacco destined for the UK.

Hughes was one of nine accomplices, along with others from Bolton, Bury, Wigan and Devon, who co-ordinated the distribution, packaging and sales operation for the tonnes of tobacco being smuggled into the country.

Raymond Hughes who is serving two jail sentences for his part in a multi-million pound tobacco smuggling operation.

He was jailed for six years in December 2016 after pleading guilty to conspiracy to cheat the public revenue and was the first of the gang to be sentenced.

At the time he was also jailed for a further six years, the sentence to be served concurrently, for his part in a separate cigarette smuggling ring which avoided £10 million in excise duty.

The five-strong gang, of which he was the leader, was caught after attempting to import three large freight consignments of illegal cigarettes from Europe and China, describing them as mattresses and automotive parts on customs paperwork to try to evade detection.

The gang used the Internet to create fake businesses, aliases and contact shipping companies to give the impression of trading in other goods.

At the time of his sentencing for that offence, Tony Capon, assistant director of the Fraud Investigation Service at HMRC, commented: "Hughes lived in an expensive house, drove a Porsche Cayenne and travelled the world, but he never declared any legitimate income or business trading to HMRC. He operated a criminal network to smuggle, transport, store and sell illegal cigarettes and tobacco, purely to evade tax."

Following the conclusion of criminal proceedings for the second tobacco smuggling operation, Mr Capon said: "This gang took smuggling and tax evasion to the limits and made a serious assault on the UK public purse, stealing millions of pounds from the taxpayer, robbing public services of vital funding and undermining legitimate, local businesses."

HMRC has started confiscation proceedings to recover the stolen tax from the gang members under Proceeds of Crime legislation.

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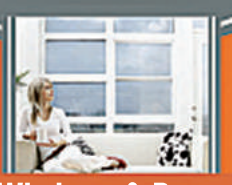
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CCG review into how to best help patients with chronic pain

Report by **Henry James**

NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is undertaking a review of what is currently available to support patients with chronic pain.

To help shape this review and ensure that it is right for patients, the CCG has appointed In Health Pain Management Services (IPMS) and Connect Health to undertake separate reviews of the existing provision in West Lancashire and to enable them to make recommendations for the design and implementation of a new pain management service.

To do this, the CCG is encouraging residents to complete an online survey (paper versions are available upon request to anyone who does not have access to a computer by calling 01695 588 203) www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/iHelpCCG. The survey will remain open for comments until Friday, June 22.

In addition, the CCG, along with IPMS and Connect Health want to meet with patients and residents who have a particular interest in the pain management service, by inviting them to meet the two organisations and to share their views of what an effective pain management service should look like at a listening event that will take place towards the end of June.

Mike Maguire, chief officer at NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "When we started speaking to patients about the pain service offer in West Lancashire towards the end of 2016, we soon discovered that there were people living with pain day in day out, who were having to see their GP or visit hospital for treatment and pain relief medication.

NHS West Lancashire CCG chief officer Mike Maguire

"This insight really identified to us that we need to provide a specialist pain service in West Lancashire and the CCG has been working hard to help address this issue. We are now at a development stage with this vision and want those patients who may benefit from the service to help shape it.

"I would urge any residents or patients with a passion for wanting to help shape this service to take the time to complete the survey and to come and speak to the CCG and providers at our listening event later in June."

To learn more about the CCG's plan for a new specialist chronic pain service in West Lancashire, visit their website:www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk or call 01695 588 203.

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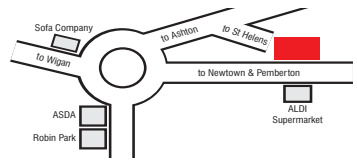

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Entries invited for this year's Lancashire Tourism Awards

TOURISM businesses have until Tuesday, July 31 to submit their application bids for this year's Lancashire Tourism Awards.

Organised by Marketing Lancashire, the county's destination management organisation, the awards are the only county-wide celebration of tourism with a wide range of categories recognising the year's outstanding tourism businesses and individuals.

Chief executive of Marketing Lancashire, Rachel McQueen

Chief executive of Marketing Lancashire, Rachel McQueen said: "This will be my first Lancashire Tourism Awards as chief executive and I couldn't be more thrilled at the prospect of seeing those businesses, who contribute so much to the success of the county's visitor economy, celebrated and rewarded for their outstanding achievements.

"Supported by sponsors and partners who also want to acknowledge the significance tourism makes to Lancashire's continuing prosperity, the awards go from strength-to-strength each year and Lancashire's success at the Visit England Awards for Excellence is testament to the strength and quality of our product on a national level."

In total, the county attracts more than 67million visitors, who contribute £4.13billion to the economy and support more than 59,000 jobs.

This year, four awards linked to the county's flourishing food and drink sector have been identified as part of Marketing Lancashire's Taste Lancashire campaign.

The categories now include Taste Lancashire Restaurant, Taste Lancashire Café/Tearoom, Taste Lancashire Pub/Inn and Taste Lancashire Producer.

The award category open to hotels (under 30 bedrooms), B&Bs, guest houses and boutique accommodation also has a new title, the Lancashire Perfect Stay Award. This recognises the breadth of choice and wide appeal of smaller properties which offer a genuine Lancashire welcome and demonstrate unique character and customer service excellence.

Deserving

Ever-popular, thanks to a growing love of staycations, the dog-friendly category rewards a business that helps people keep their four-legged friends close-by and content during a short-break or holiday in the county.

The Lancashire Tourism Awards also recognises the county's distinctive retailers. From food halls to fancy footwear, bridal gowns to hand-crafted homewares or locally-inspired works of art, Lancashire's go-to retailers have an award in-waiting.

The 2018 awards will also honour an industry colleague with the title Lancashire Tourism Superstar, following public nomination and voting.

The public can now nominate a deserving individual in this category, by completing a simple online nomination form.

Nominees must be a champion of Lancashire tourism, working in or directly supporting the industry.

All 22 categories, important dates, application criteria and application forms can now be found on LancashireTourismAwards.com. Completed applications must be submitted by 6pm on Tuesday, July 31.

The location and date for The Lancashire Tourism Awards 2018 ceremony, will be announced soon

First phase of work at Lime Street station completed

THE first phase of upgrades at Liverpool Lime Street railway station have been completed.

Some of the work now finished by Network Rail engineers includes building the concrete foundations for platform extensions, overhead line re-wiring, platform surfacing, track drainage, track renewals and track remodelling.

Platforms 1and 2 reopened on Monday, June 11 and will remain open until Friday, July 13.

This forms a key part of the transportation plan to keep passengers moving, with direct services to run between Liverpool Lime Street and Manchester Victoria and Wigan for onward connections to Preston, Blackpool, Yorkshire and the North East.

Liam Robinson, transport portfolio holder for Liverpool City Region, said: "We're really pleased to see the first stage of the upgrade at Lime Street Station completed on time and would like to thank passengers for their patience and remind them to plan ahead before they travel, while the rest of the essential work takes place."

Liverpool Lime Street's major transformation will be fully complete in October this year. This work will enable an extra three services in/out of Lime Street every hour, including new direct services to Scotland.

Remodelling and rebuilding station platforms will provide longer, more spacious platforms capable of accommodating longer trains and more passengers, more safely.

Many mainline services - for example Birmingham, London, Crewe, Runcorn, Manchester and Sheffield - continue to start and terminate at Liverpool South Parkway, with Merseyrail services running every 15 minutes to and from Liverpool city centre.

Network Rail engineers working on the approach to Liverpool's Lime Street station

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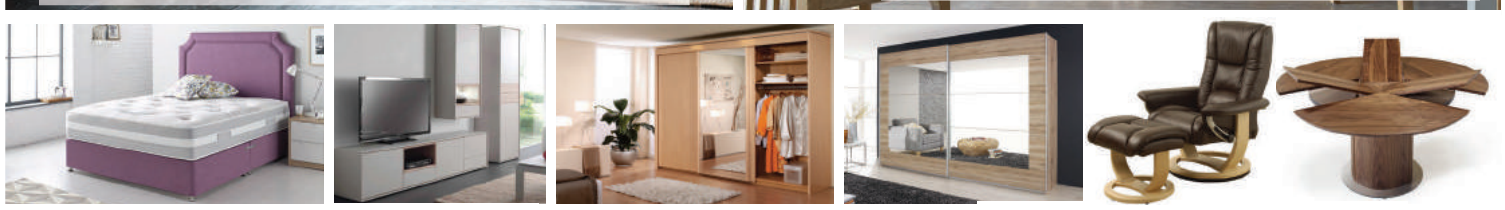

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Shoe firm makes donation to charity

HOTTER shoe company opened its Skelmersdale factory last month to the international non-profit Soles4Souls, donating 1,000 pairs of shoes to help create opportunities for people in need across the globe.

Eleven student volunteers with the organisation visited the UK's biggest shoemaker to see the high-tech footwear production in action before picking and packing 1,000 pairs of Hotter shoes, which will be distributed to Soles4Souls' micro-enterprise programmess, that create jobs in developing countries.

"We were delighted to bring these young people into our factory to show them how our people craft our shoes," said Hotter chief executive, Sara Prowse.

"There is so much technology and precision engineering involved in creating a pair of shoes which delivers the perfect fit."

Soles4Souls' director of Global Partnerships, Mackenzie Moore, commented: "We are so grateful for Hotter's partnership with our organisation.

"For our student volunteers to be able to see both how the shoes are made, and then how they can impact people living in poverty, is really special."

Aspiring artists urged to submit exhibit entries

IF any West Lancashire residents like to draw, paint, take photographs or make prints or sculptures, this is their opportunity to exhibit their work in a professional art gallery by taking part in the popular Lancashire Open Exhibition 2018.

Amateur and professional artists alike have a chance to exhibit at Ormskirk's Chapel Gallery so, even if residents have never exhibited in a gallery before, this is an opportunity to get their work seen by the general public.

Entry forms are now available so contact the Chapel Gallery staff to request a copy. If selected, work will be exhibited at the gallery in St Helens Road from July 21 to September 5.

This is an annual exhibition but no two years are ever the same.

Prizes

There's a diverse array of artworks on display and a different panel of guest judges presiding over each selection.

So, even if people have never exhibited their work before, this is a great introduction to the process, as each Lancashire Open Exhibition includes work from most disciplines and is open to anyone to enter.

The first prize is £800, with a second prize of £400 and £200 for third place.

Commendations are also awarded along with the prestigious Peoples' Prize, voted by visitors to the gallery. A £150 prize will also be awarded for the best student entry.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, West Lancs Council's cabinet member for leisure, said: "The Open Exhibition is a fantastic event every year and anyone can put their works forward.

"So if you are an artist get your entry form now for the chance to have your work in the exhibition."

Applicants must be 18 years old or over and can submit two original pieces of artwork to be viewed by the selection panel.

All media entered will be considered, from drawing, painting, printmaking and three-dimensional work, to photography, sculpture and textiles.

Submissions will be accepted on Saturday or Sunday, July 7 and 8 between 10am and 4.30pm.

Large-scale two-dimensional and three-dimensional works should be submitted by photograph only. The gallery should be in receipt of these submissions by Saturday, July 7.

They should also include a completed entry form and a first-class stamp.

Entry forms can be downloaded at www.chapelgallery.org.uk or requested by calling 01695 571328.

Alternatively, pop into the gallery which is open 10am to 4.30pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

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Miracle Godson

Firefighters back Drowning Prevention Week

LANCASHIRE Fire and Rescue Service will be hoping to make an impact when they take part in Drowning Prevention Week 2018.

Drowning Prevention Week, created by the Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) and this year run in partnership with the RNLI and Swim England, will see an increase of water safety activity from June 15 – 25.

The national campaign aims to ensure everyone knows how to have fun and stay safe near water, and a host of free resources have been produced to help supporters promote water safety.

More than 700 people drown in the UK and Ireland every year and many more have near-drowning experiences, sometimes suffering life-changing injuries. In 2015 Miracle Godson, 14, drowned after jumping into East Quarry at Appley Bridge.

Throughout the course of the week, firefighters and community safety advisors will be presenting an educational package to young people throughout the county.

Area manager Ben Norman from Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service said: "It is so important to remind people to stay safe near water, especially at this high-risk time of year. Our crews are well aware of the dangers of open water following on from the tragic deaths of James Goodship, Miracle Godson and Dylan Ramsay in recent years. We are only too happy to be involved with Drowning Prevention Week."

Smokers urged to quit for Breathe Easy Week

LANCASHIRE Care Trust's Quit Squad want to highlight the specialist support available to smokers during Breathe Easy Week.

An annual awareness event organised by the British Lung Foundation, Breathe Easy Week focuses on lung health and the Quit Squad is supporting the campaign by raising awareness of the impact of tobacco on your health if you smoke.

Breathe Easy Week runs from June 18 to 24.

Gareth Beck from the Quit Squad said: "Smoking is the leading cause of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) causing damage to the lungs and airways.

"If you have COPD, then stopping smoking is the most important thing you can do.

"Stopping smoking can prevent COPD from developing or getting worse. Quitting tobacco will help you cope with your symptoms, improve your health and quality of life, and prevent the condition from getting worse."

COPD is the name for a group of lung conditions that cause breathing difficulties.

You can access the service in your local community by visiting a drop-in clinic (no appointments are required) or by attending a one-to-one session.

The Quit Squad also offers sessions in the community and workplace.

For further details, telephone 0800 3286297, visit www.quitsquad.nhs.uk.

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Village 'Best Kept' contest launched

HESKETH Bank Parish Council have launched their fourth annual 'Best Kept' competition.

The contest will see judges tasked with finding the best allotment, front and street in the village.

Parish Councillor Diane Earles said: "Residents will be pleased to know that they do not have to do anything to enter - other than keep their part of Hesketh Bank tidy - the judges will do the rest."

Judging will take place between now and Sunday, July 15 with a shortlist to be announced after Friday, July 27.

Winners of the front garden and allotments categories will receive two free tickets to Southport Flower Show. The winning street will receive a plaque and all those shortlisted will receive two free tickets to the Hesketh Bank Village Show on Saturday, September 15, courtesy of the parish council.

The judging panel will again include Sue Watson, of the local U3A Gardening Group, and Liz Tyson of Landsdowne Camping.

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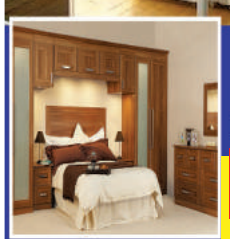

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I'm not ashamed to say Trooping of the Colour made me proud to be British

YES, yes I know this is a week late - but again I can only blame copy deadlines.

Anyway, I watched the highlights of this year's Trooping of the Colour for the Queen's official birthday (I confess I forgot to set my recorder for the full event) and was, as usual, overcome by the performance of what is recognised to be the best military display of its type in the world.

And yes, it does make me proud to be British. Could you imagine the Americans or the French (or any other nation for that matter) being able to put on such a meticulous and truly splendid display?

And these are not special 'show-off' troops kept and trained solely for special events. These are men who fight for Queen and Country and attempt to keep the peace in quite dreadful parts of the world.

This year it was the turn of the Coldstream Guards to troop their colours in front of her Majesty, but there were no representatives of the Welsh Guards on hand because they are presently rather preoccupied in Afghanistan, a place not on most folks' holiday list.

Although I must confess that when I first saw the troops lined up on Horseguards Parade I was perhaps a tad disappointed. Not at their smartness and performance, but at the sheer numbers of soldiery on display. I remember watching this event way back in the 1950s, and though as a youngster things sometimes perhaps did look bigger, I'm pretty certain that there were several more ranks of men involved then.

Mind you, those days we didn't have gaps between scrapping one aircraft carrier and commissioning its replacement; nor have to put it into service before we had any actual aircraft to fly from it! How long, I wonder, will it be before people ask "where is the frigate?" when talking about the Royal Navy.

But none of this bitching detracts from the unique Trooping of the Colour, and coming as it did this year only three weeks after the equally impressive spectacle of the Royal Wedding it reinforced my belief that Great Britain - England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland - have a heritage well worth preserving.

I reckon that events such as these also show that we, as a nation, are quite capable of lifting ourselves above the norm when we put our minds to it. And the simple fact that millions of folk around the world tune in their TVs to watch them, surely means that others suspect that too.

Which is why I voted to leave the dreadfully dull European Union, complete with its unelected officialdom, awful dedication to forms of action and self-serving rules.

Ever since the referendum, Remoaners have systematically undermined any attempt actually to get on with getting out until we got to where we are now with a spineless leadership apparently willing to accept any compromise forced on us by our French and German 'partners' who are of course worried sick that if Great Britain is seen to succeed then there could be several European countries waiting in the wings to follow suit and get out of this moribund organisation.

I'm not talking now only of such countries as Greece and Italy. Many, many citizens of both France and Germany too are sick of the so-called European Union, which is rarely united about anything anyway.

Odd, isn't it, that even the most staunch Remoaner doesn't bang on about how we really should join the Euro, though at the time when we again very nearly did chuck our future down the European drain, I suspect many of them thought it a spiffing idea. Well, not perhaps 'spiffing', that sounds much too much like Little England - so let's just settle for 'inevitable' instead. Which of course it wasn't, despite what we were told by our 'partners' at the time.

Even those Scots who wish for independence seem pretty keen on keeping the pound for as long as Great Britain allows them to do so.

All of which has led me a long way from Horseguards, but I am not ashamed to confess, both when watching the Royal Wedding and the Trooping of the Colour that I do feel a swelling of unfashionable patriotism.

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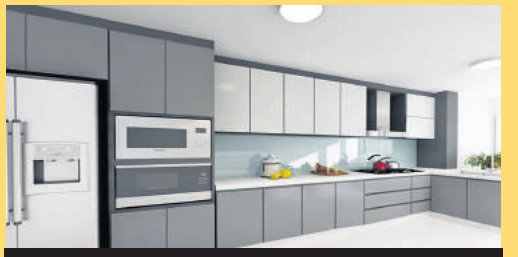

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Disability charity thanks volunteers for support

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Rose Heron (seated) assisting a parent at Rainbow House.

RAINBOW House has publicly thanked its small army of volunteers whose contribution is of "enormous value".

The charity, based in Mawdesley, says that without the help of volunteers who span all ages they would not be able to continue their work supporting children and young people with neurological and physical disabilities.

One of their current volunteers is Rose Heron from Burscough.

Rose, whose career was in teaching, has been a volunteer for just over a year and helps on reception where she greets parents and children, answers the telephone and helps with paperwork.

She decided to help out when she had some spare time after taking early retirement as a Learning Support Manager at Cardinal Newman College to look after her father.

Rose said that it is a pleasure to be at Rainbow House which has a lovely atmosphere to work in and that if anyone has any time to spare they would be made welcome.

She said: "I have spent my whole life working with children and I cannot see myself ever doing anything that does not involve children and offering the support they need."

Volunteer Co-ordinator, Tracy Daglish, is responsible for recruiting new volunteers and organising everyone to support the events and work of the charity.

She said: "Rainbow House is a very special place and the benefits for the children and parents are enormous as I know from my own experience. We are so grateful to all of our volunteers and hope that more will join us especially anyone who can help with fundraising and our special events like the Rainbow Ramble."

Ben Blackman, Chief Executive, Rainbow House, said the charity wanted to publicly thank all of its volunteers for their contribution which is of "enormous value".

He said: "Without their help we could not continue to deliver and expand the services we offer to support children and young people with neurological and physical conditions."

Many of the parents whose children attend Rainbow House also help with a range of activities from organising fundraising events to wrapping presents and prizes, filling goodybags and making goods to sell at the Christmas Fair and the Board of Trustees and Chair, former Chief Constable Pauline Clare CBE, are all volunteers.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, they can ring 01704 823276 or alternatively email t.daglish@thelegacyrainbowhouse.com

Another great ***Champion*** *Competition*

WIN A FAMILY TICKET TO ST MARY'S COLLEGE PROMS IN THE PARK CONCERT

Music lovers will once again be able to enjoy an open air Last Night of the Proms concert and fireworks extravaganza this summer...

Win a family ticket to the Proms in the Park concert (2 adults & 2 children) worth £50 by answering the following question:

Which of the following schools did Liverpool FC and England football star Trent Alexander-Arnold attend?

a. Hogwarts
b. Rydell High
c. St Mary's College & Preparatory School
d. Grange Hill

Winner will be drawn at random. Email your answer plus full contact details to: **proms@stmarys.lpool.sch.uk** by 12 noon on Friday 29th June 2018.

For the eighth year in a row, St. Mary's College will stage the musical spectacular at its Blundell Park playing field on Little Crosby Road at 7.30pm on Saturday 14th July.

Proms in the Park will feature 250 talented young musicians from St Mary's College & Preparatory School, conducted by the school's director of Music, Andrew Byers. There will also be a special guest performance by renowned International Soprano and former St Mary's pupil Rachael Russell.

Compere for the event will be BBC Radio Merseyside presenter Roger Phillips.

The St. Mary's pupils will play all the old favourites from the annual Last Night of the Proms concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

These include Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No 1 (Land of Hope and Glory), Jerusalem, the Fantasia on British Sea Songs written by Proms founder Henry Wood and, of course, Rule Britannia.

The concert will finish with a performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture, which will be accompanied by a spectacular fireworks display.

St. Mary's Principal, Mike Kennedy, commented: "The Last Night of the Proms concert has been a tradition at the school for many years now, but staging it in the open air in recent summers has brought a whole new dimension to the event. "Following the excellent feedback we received in 2017, we're hoping for an even bigger audience this year."

"They will be able to enjoy a concert that will be both a rousing way to end the school year and a wonderful showcase for the wealth of musical talent here at St. Mary's," added Mr Kennedy.

Advanced ticket prices for the concert are £17.50 for adults, £10.00 for children (applies to students) and £50.00 for a family ticket (2 adults, 2 children). Entrance is free for children under five.

For more information about the event and to book tickets please ring St. Mary's College on 0151 924 3926 or email proms@stmarys.lpool.sch.uk.

Rugby club's memorial sevens tournament is a record-breaker - again!

ELITE players scrummed down with social rugby devotees to make the Skofic Sevens competition at Tarleton Rugby Club a record-breaker for the second year running.

Organisers of the sixth annual tournament, in memory of the former club chairman, Jonathan Skofic, are celebrating after raising more than £17,500 on a day which attracted 24 teams and more than 1,000 visitors.

"Once again we've been totally overwhelmed by the support the event has generated," said Jack Skofic, the eldest of Jonathan's five international rugby-playing sons.

"Last year's event was a record-breaker and this year we have surpassed even that. Dad would have been very proud. It has been absolutely amazing."

The Skofic Invitational Sevens is now an affiliated tournament of the RFU's 24/Sevens series. This year's winners, International 7s, will now go through to the North Finals, with a place in the Grand Finals at Bath in July up for grabs.

Winners of the social competition on the day were Wigan RUFC, while the women's tournament was won by Preston Grasshoppers' Ladies.

Jack Skofic added: "It is a fitting tribute to my dad that we can showcase a full range of rugby, with national appeal and accreditation. I believe that a sevens festival of this nature aligns closely with what my dad was passionate about - being inclusive for all abilities by providing rugby at elite levels, social rugby and women's rugby.

"It galvanises and inspires others to be part of something positive for the community and ultimately raising funds that go towards enterprise initiatives to support and better the rugby club and local good causes."

UK top 10 rating for Moor Hall

AN award-winning West Lancashire restaurant has been adjudged one of the top ten best UK restaurants at the 2018 Estrella Damm National Restaurant Awards held at The Hurlingham Club in London.

Moor Hall, in Prescot Road, Aughton, was previously ranked at No. 70 in the awards which are run in association with Restaurant magazine and based on the views of chefs, restaurateurs and food writers.

The converted 16th-century manor house has already won a string of accolade, including four AA Rosettes, a Michelin star; a place in the Good Food Guide's top 50 restaurants; a double win at the 2017 West Lancashire Design Awards; and being listed in the Sunday Times Best Places to Stay: 100 great British hotels.

Head chef, Mark Birchall, said: "We are thrilled to have been named number six in this year's National Restaurant Awards, it's a huge achievement from last year's position at number 70, and really shows the hard work and commitment the whole team have put in."

Mark Birchall, head chef at Moor Hall.

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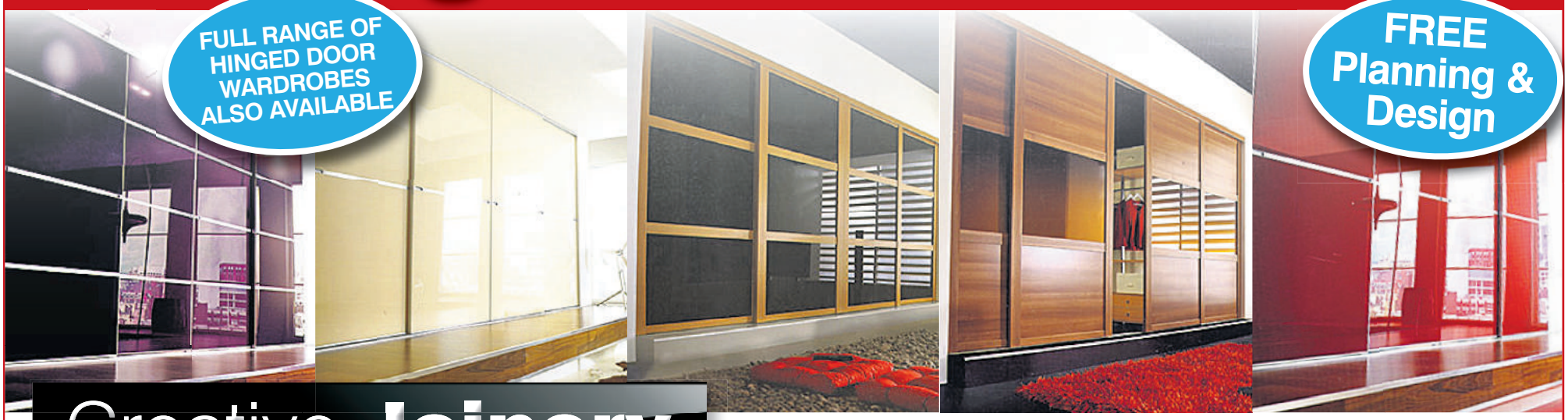

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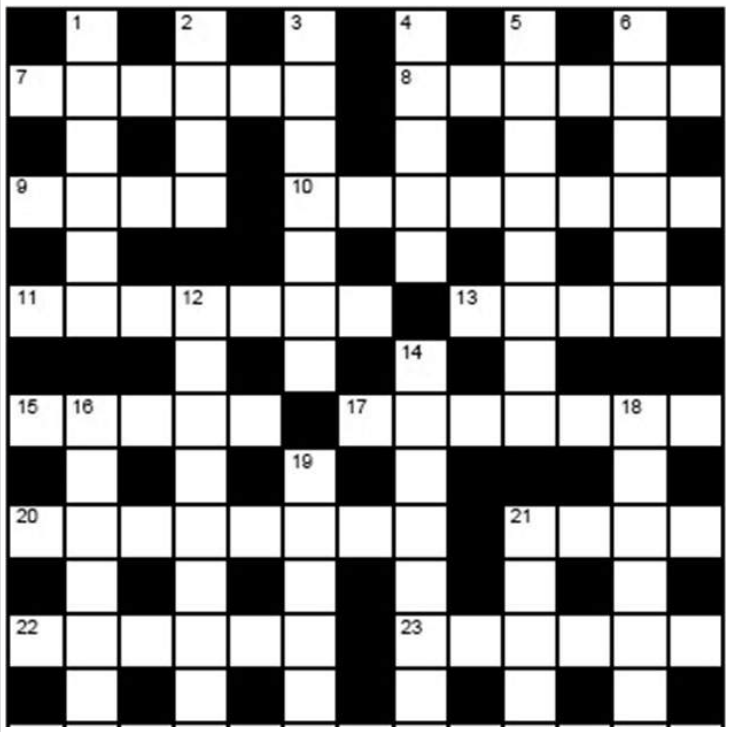

Last week's solutions:
Across: 7. Cashew. 8. Fickle. 9. Flit. 10. Sardonic. 11. Sweeten. 13. Speak. 15. Creek. 16. Keynote. 18. Bathroom. 19. Mete. 21. Scenic. 22. Ignore.
Down: 1. Jail. 2. White elephant. 3. Twisted. 4. Afire. 5. Accompaniment. 6. Claimant. 12. War dance. 14. Mermaid. 17. Torch. 20. Tarn.

ACROSS

7. Body of people ordained for religious duties, especially in the Christian Church (6)
8. Reddish-brown colour of hair (6)
9. Unattractive, repulsive (4)
10. Follower, supporter (8)
11. Lacking refinement (7)
13. Make or become dry through intense heat (5)
15. Woman's dress or top gathered at the chest with a loosely fitting lower part (5)
17. Cover with drops or spots of something (7)
20. Small tropical American monkey with a silky coat and long tail (8)
21. Cut with rough or heavy blows (4)
22. The son of a monarch (6)
23. Co-operate on a matter of mutual concern (6)

DOWN

1. Large drinking vessel, typically with a handle and spout (6)
2. Truck of cart used to deliver beer barrels (4)
3. A line of hereditary rulers of a country (7)
4. Russian country house or cottage (5)
5. Departing from an accepted standard (8)
6. Paradoxical (6)
12. Approaching from the front; moving towards one (7)
14. Cooking utensil with a broad, flat blade used for lifting, spreading, or stirring foods (7)
16. Lacking in quantity or quality (6)
18. Surplus (6)
19. Any of various willows having pliable twigs used in basketry (5)
21. Humorous or malicious deception, practical joke (4)

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Reverend Rebecca Clarke of Banks St Stephen's Church and project manager Jennifer Cropper officially open the Festival of Flowers.

Wedding-themed flower festival marks village church's 150th anniverary

AFTER months of careful planning and meetings, St Stephen's parish church in Banks celebrated its 150th anniversary this month with a flower festival entitled Local Weddings.

Inside the church was a riot of colour with arrangements and tableaux with religious themes, while many brides who had been married there lent their bridal dresses to be displayed on mannequins raised over the height of the pews.

One of the organisers, Tom Cropper, said: "Throughout the three days the weather was glorious and the crowds poured in to enjoy, not only the flower festival, but also the excellent food and music in the marquees outside.

"We were even able to hold our Sunday morning service al fresco!

"All of this hard work by many was to celebrate 150 years of The Parish Church of St Stephen being a living presence in the village which it continues to be to this day. We would like to thank all the sponsors and all those involved, without whose help this event would not have been possible."

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Champion ENTERTAINMENT

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Show gave 'amusing and insightful look at life behind curtain'

Review by **Ron Ellis**

A Bunch of Amateurs by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman
Mawdesley Amateur Dramatic Club
Mawdesley Village Hall

FINLAY Robertson gave a Herculean performance as Jefferson Steel, a fading Hollywood legend who thinks he has been invited to star in a stage production of King Lear in Stratford-on-Avon but, when he flies in from America, finds himself at Stratford St. John in Suffolk with an amateur theatre company fighting to save its dilapidated theatre from closure.

Furious that he can't get out of the engagement, and even more livid when no hired limousine appears and the expected hotel suite turns out to be a bed and breakfast, he rants at everyone in sight until, at times, it was almost in danger of becoming a one man show. Happily, other members of the cast came into the picture.

Debbie Wells played the archetypal director, Dorothy Nettle, as if she had done it all her life, realising that to treat him like a spoilt child was the best way to handle him.

Samantha Quinn was intriguingly provocative as the star-struck Mary and Pete Rogers had a nice line in smugness as the pompous Nigel, who fancies himself in the role of Lear and lets everyone know it.

Jonathan Lyons appeared as the sycophantic Denis while Olivia Lloyd played Lauren who, moonlighting as a physiotherapist, gives Steel an erotic massage which brings problems from the sponsors when reported to the Press but cheers from the audience as her hand starts to negotiate a path up his colourful American shorts.

Molly Rogers offered a lovely cameo as Steel's teenage daughter, Jessica, whose rejection by her starstruck father created the play's most poignant moments. The cast was completed by Erin Lee-Smith, Alice Kay and George Gottig as journalists.

There were plenty of laughs too from watching the competing egos onstage, revealing the jealousy, bitchiness and narcissism rife in the company. But all came good in the end and, ably directed by Hilda McAughey, the performance gave an amusing and insightful look at life behind the curtain.

Star rating 6 out of 10. Tantrums of a one-time superstar.

The Blackpool Tower Ballroom

Full day needed to enjoy all attractions at Blackpool Tower

Review by **Henry James**

THE Blackpool Tower, a landmark of the North West coast, has been a popular tourist destination for well over a hundred years.

Families can spend many hours there and enjoy its many attractions including: The Blackpool Tower Eye (a lift to the top of the Tower) the Eye, The Circus and The Ballroom.

The highlights of our visit at the beginning of June were seeing the ballroom, which is used as a venue in the TV programme Strictly Come Dancing, and the dungeon.

The dungeon transports people back through time. We were taken through a series of rooms, including a mock court scene with a judge and volunteers were asked to stand in the dock and had sentences passed against them.

In another room we were taken to a village, which was facing attack from vikings. Walls shake and we had to play our part to defend the inhabitants against the gruesome invaders.

The attraction, which lasts about an hour, ends with a ride.

When we went to the Ballroom, a number of couples were dancing while the famous Wurlitzer organ was being played. Afternoon tea is also available.

The Ballroom is an impressive venue, which is made up of mahogany, oak and walnut and is built around an expansive stage.

New this year is Dino Mini Golf, which is a nine hole putting course with a dinosaur theme with windows looking out at the Blackpool coast.

Those with a head for heights can take the lift to the top of the Tower. The viewing platform is 380 feet above the town and includes a glass walkway for the very daring. It also offers 360 degree views across the North West.

For younger visitors to the tower there is Jungle Jim's Children's Indoor Play area where there are ball pools and a number of different slides.

It would be advised to set aside a full day to enjoy all the attractions at Blackpool Tower, or to make a few visits.

The illuminated Dazzle ferry Snowdrop. Picture by John Davidson

All aboard for a summer evening cruise on Mersey

Champion Review:
Mersey Ferries
Summer Evening Cruises

A TRIP to Liverpool would not be complete without a ferry across the Mersey.

So what better way to enjoy a sail on the river than by evening cruise - complete with onboard entertainment and a licensed bar!

But rather than just go across the Mersey, this particular journey took us along the river, past the Iron Men at Crosby and almost as far as Formby Point before returning and heading back to port where the magnificent sight of the Three Graces awaits the traveller.

You could just imagine how passengers on those great ships of yesteryear must have felt as they approached the 'pool. The skyline has changed much over the years with the modern meeting the past, but the spectacle of nearing these great landmarks never fails to impress.

This particular summer cruise on an early, balmy June evening was to last two hours – and it sailed by.

It was one of a programme of evening cruises taking place on Friday and Saturday nights and designed to bring the River Mersey alive... with the sound of music and merriment!

Top artists are performing throughout the programme and no sooner had we boarded the Royal Iris ferry when the musical tones of a very talented Liverpool musician, Marc Kenny, struck up filling the evening air with hits old and new with several Mersey favourites thrown in, not forgetting, of course, Ferry Across the Mersey – well, he would have been thrown overboard if he'd missed that one out!

The two-hour evening cruises depart from Seacombe at 7.30pm and at 7.40pm from Pier Head, Liverpool and offer breathtaking views of Liverpool's UNESCO World Heritage waterfront.

With tickets priced at only £14.95 per person, passengers can experience a truly unique night out, a fully licensed paid bar and time to enjoy with their friends and family singing and dancing along on the decks of the iconic vessels.

The Summer Evening Cruises run until September.

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Saturday 30 June 7.30pm
Ormskirk School, Wigan Rd
Ormskirk L39 2AT
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Aug 3, 10, 17, 31	£79.95
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Oct 5, 12, 19, 26	£79.95

3 NTS Friday	
Jul 13, 27	£115
Aug 10, 17	£115
Sep 7, 14, 21, 28	£115
Oct 5, 12, 19, 26	£115

4 NTS Monday	
Jul 16, 23, 30	£189.95
Aug 6, 13, 20, 27	£189.95
Sep 3, 10, 17, 24	£189.95
Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	£169.95

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Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	£149.95
Nov 5, 12, 19, 26	£139.95

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Jul 6	Pure Whitney	£85	£99.95
Jul 13	Meatloaf	£85	£99.95
Jul 20	Cliff Richard	£85	£99.95
Jul 27	Soul & Motown	£85	£99.95
Aug 3	Freddie Mercury	£85	£99.95
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29 Jun, 6, 13, 20, 27 Jul, 3, 10, 24, 31 Aug, 7, 14, 21, 28 Sep	2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Jul, 6, 13, 20, 27 Aug, 3, 10, 17, 24 Sep, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct
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★2 NTS Arrive Friday	★4 NTS Arrive Monday
29 Jun, 6, 13, 20, 27 Jul, 3, 10, 17, 31 Aug, 7, 14, 21, 28 Sep	2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Jul, 6, 13, 20, 27 Aug, 3, 10, 17, 24 Sep, 1, 8, 15 Oct
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3 NTS Friday	
Jun 29	£129.95
Jul 6, 13, 20, 27	£129.95
Aug 3, 10, 17, BH 24, 31	£129.95
Sep 7, 14, 21, 28	£129.95
Oct 5, 12, 19, 26	£99.95
Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	£99.95
Dec 7, 14	£99.95

4 NTS Monday	
Jul 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	£169.95
Aug 6, 13, 20, BH 27	£169.95
Sep 3, 10, 17, 24	£169.95
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BEAUTIFUL HEARTH and plinth in beige marble £90 07946 754120

RADIATOR complete with brackets, 600mm high, 1120mm long £15. Gold mirror with leadlight trim, suit hall/lounge, 29"x17" £15 07977 344241

CEILING LIGHT FITTINGS three matching, two 5 lights, one 3 lights, brass and glass complete with bulbs, £50 for all 07977 344241

CLOAKROOM CORNER UNIT white with basin and s/steel tap £15. Round patio table and 4 chairs, good condition £10. 07934 496817

BEALES DUVET single summer duck feather and down, as new, 10.5 tog, cost £55, sell £10 07763 753934

MAINS POWERED hand held vacuum cleaner, suitable for caravan etc, new condition £15 07765 850104

MICROWAVE OVEN from Tesco MMBS14, black/silver, 700w, good as new, only used a few times, owner moved to care home, £20 (Crosby) 07779 383074

SINGLE BED modern metal frame,silver,excellent condition,with mattress,hardly used. can deliver southport area.£40. 01704 548264

BRIDGECRAFT 4PIECE suite, red/gold, cost £5500, sell £600. Miele fridge/freezer, excellent condition £90. Welsh dresser, 4ft x 18.5" x 71" £60 01704 225952

MOVIE POSTERS Two framed 1950's, vgc, 'Morocco' and 'Mogambo', approx 55cm x 75cm, £15 each or £25 for both, buyer collects, cash 07963 487153

REPRODUCTION VICTORIAN pine front door, 34" wide, 82" high, 1.75" thick, two panels bottom, unglazed panel top, £120 ono 07816 659688

TWO DOORS Narrow 10 glass panels each 78" x 33" £10 each. TV stand, black glass top, 3 shelves £10 01704 211988

PORTABLE HEATER Igenix portable calor gas heater with near full 15kg butane cylinder. vgc. £65. 01704 889256

FRAME WOODEN effect. Dark. Very large. Ornate carving. Painted design on middle part. Fair condition. W133.5cm 52.5". H102.5cm 40"6. £50ono 01704 808024

BLUE RUG Brand new blue rug with cream pattern in centre 120 cm/170 cm £30 01704877195

SLOW COOKER Oval Morphy Richards 3.5L white and silver, nice condition £15 07704 785755

WOODEN CABINET Solid light wood cabinet with glass on top suitable for tv, freeview, xbox and games. Excellent condition. Only £40. 07858046342

HOUSE AND HOME

BEKO DISHWASHER 12 Place setting, fully integrated. New never been used. £100.00 01704 538825

KITCHEN CHAIRS Four white John Lewis kitchen chairs with stainless steel legs. In mint condition. New kitchen forces sale. £10 each. 01704577481

Philips 32" Flatscreen TV with ambilight £30 ono **07922 644445**

MIRROR 70cm window style mirror, arched, mahogany, like new £15. Pair matching table lamps, brass base, white shades, 70cm high £10 0151 2075101

TABLE & CHAIRS solid wood, large tiled table with four chairs, must be seen, as new £100 0151 5263762

BRIDGECRAFT SUITE 4-piece, red and gold, cost £5,500, bargain at £600. Miele fridge freezer in excellent condition, bargain at £100. 01704 225952

ROYAL WEDGWOOD beautiful 34 piece dinner set, 'Blue Siam', £80. Conservatory 2 seater settee, traditional wicker style, very good condition £80 01704 535142

PINE TV corner unit, headlight glass doors £12. Child's white bed, solid ends, 4'6 x 2'6 £10. Mahogany CD unit, £8 0151 5266235

TV STAND 3 tier black glass & silver columns, fit up to 50" TV £30 07549609400

OCCASIONAL TABLE Mahogany colour, excellent condition £15. Double drop leaf table, overall diameter 30". Some damage easily repaired £10 0151 9242400

LINED CURTAINS 2 pairs. Beige colour, pinch pleat heading covered buttons, nice clean condition 80 x 80" long £30. Curtain pole£10 0151 5461393

DINING TABLE Elegant glass top with 4 chairs, neutral covered seats plus matching nest of tables, new condition £490 07752 886940

VERTICAL BLINDS 7 sets white/cream plus fittings. 2 patio door blinds, ring for the various sizes. Excellent condition £20 each. £100 the lot. 01695424797

TABLE CLOTH Boxed and unopened Marks and Spencer table cloth, size 140 cm X 230cm. Cost new £25.00, Aintree. £10.00 07387439004

RADIATORS 8 central heating radiators. 4 x double, 4 x single please ring for sizes. All excellent condition. £15 each or £100 the lot. 01695424797

CARPETS CREAM 2 carpets - hessian backed - 298 x 290cm and 420 x 294cm - reasonably new in excellent condition - £30 each 01695424797

CARPET BEIGE/BROWN fleck - 330 x 315 cm - felt backed, fairly new excellent condition - £30 01695424797

KITCHEN UNITS Cathedral style raised panel doors - Red Oak,3 drawer 60cm, cooker/housing 60cm, corner unit 100cm, under sink80cm, Stainless/sink/tap, excellent condition - £150 01695424797

KITCHEN APPLIANCES Zanuzzi Extractor Fan ZH6Z, HoffiARK 4 ring gas hob, Beco Electric single oven - good working order - £150 will separate. 01695424797

POTTERTON PROMAX Combi HE Plus central heating boiler, 2 years old, very good condition. £250 01695424797

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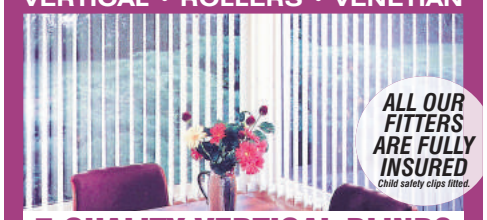

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MISC

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ROLLATOR 4 wheel, folds for storage, back and under-seat storage. Only used a few times. £40. Southport. 07961 800867

TROLLEY WALKER four wheels, adjustable height, lockable brakes, brown/beige, very good condition £30 07779 830074

WHEELCHAIR Folds up for transit, good condition, not self-propelling, £45, Ormskirk 01695 579858

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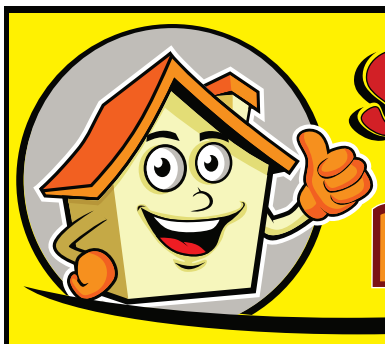
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Application forms and job description can be obtained from our vacancies section on our website at www.queenscourt.org.uk/jobs or by contacting the Human Resources Team at Queenscourt Hospice, Town Lane, Southport, PR8 6RE **Tel: 01704 544645**

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Administration Assistant
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JC&A Solicitors are a well-established Personal Injury Firm who are seeking an enthusiastic candidate on a fixed term contract.

The role includes data input, credit control and other tasks as required. No previous experience is necessary as full training and support will be given, however higher education qualifications would be preferable, but not essential.

Please submit your c.v for the attention of Sue McDermott to
info@jcasolicitors.co.uk
If you do not hear from us within 10 days, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

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Billing Clerk - Credit Control Department
JC&A SOLICITORS

JC&A Solicitors are a well-established Personal Injury Firm who are seeking enthusiastic candidates to join our Credit Control Department on a fixed term contract.
No previous experience is necessary as full training and support will be given, however a degree would be beneficial but not essential.
You will be trained to prepare Bills of Costs for legal services.
The role will also involve assisting the credit control team with administrative duties which will include contact with clients.

Please submit your c.v for the attention of Sue McDermott to
info@jcasolicitors.co.uk
If you do not hear from us within 10 days, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

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The successful candidate will have at least three years' experience working with primary and/or secondary age children in a community setting and provide evidence of relevant continued professional development.

The role involves: liaising with the Head, Deputy Heads and SENCO to provide support for targeted pupils to raise achievement and attendance; encouraging and developing positive relationships with parents/carers in school and at home; handling personal or challenging enquiries from families.

A full job description and person specification are available on request. For an application pack please contact the school on 01695 729912 or at enquiries@maharishischool.com .

Application deadline: 4.00pm Friday 29th June

All appointments are subject to satisfactory references and enhanced DBS clearance.

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Friday 15th June 2018

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DEATHS

MOLYNEUX JOHN

17th June 2018
aged 75 years

Beloved Husband of Eleanor. Dearly loved Dad of Brian and Joanne, dear Grandad of Aaron and Ewan, Bethany and Matthew. Dearly loved Brother of George and Brother in law of Liz and a dearly loved Uncle. Service and cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday 29th June at 1pm. family flowers only. Donations if desired to Queenscourt Hospice would be appreciated. All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128b Burscough St, Ormskirk, L39 2EY. Tel:01695 572997

NOTHARD JONATHAN (JONNY)

Sadly passed away on 13th June 2018
Aged 41 years
Rest in peace now you have found your Nirvana

All our love Mum, Dad, Emma, Albie and all your family and friends. Family flowers only by request but donations are being gratefully received for Cancer Research. For funeral arrangements please contact Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton. Tel: 01695 424888.

DORAN ANNA MARY (MOLLY)

On 12th June 2018
Peacefully in a Nursing Home
Aged 89 years

Beloved Wife of the late Robbie, and a loving Mum, Gran and Great Gran. Funeral mass will take place at St. Maries Church on Wednesday 27th June at 12:00 noon, followed by the interment at Liverpool Road Cemetery. Close family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for Alzheimer's Society. Donations and further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel: 01704 214118.

DEATHS

PORTER BRENDA

On 14th June 2018
Peacefully in Queenscourt Hospice
Aged 70 years

Beloved Wife of Carl, loving Mum of Owen, Gary and Michael, dear Mother in Law of Angela, Nicki and Sian, and a much loved Grandma of Jason, Harry and Kane. Funeral service and interment will take place at St. Marks Church Scarisbrick on Thursday 28th June at 11:00am. 'Please wear formal non black clothes'. Family flowers only by request donations if so desired for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel: 01704 214118.

BALDWIN GILLIAN DOREEN (DO) (NEE WILLIAMS)

11th June 2018
Aged 70 years

Died peacefully at Southport Hospital after a long illness. Dearly beloved Wife of the late James Edward (Jim). Dearly loved Auntie of Elaine, Diane, Valerie and Ian. A loving Great Aunt and Great Great Aunt. Gillian will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 21st June at 2:00pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

SLINGER KATHLEEN MAY Née Coates

91 Years
Passed away peacefully at home on the 10th June 2018

Much loved Wife of Samuel Slinger formally of Ribble Bank Farm, Hesketh Bank. Kathleen will be missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service to take place on Saturday 23rd June at All Saints Hesketh-with-Becconsall Parish Church, Hesketh Bank at 12noon followed by Committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only please however donations are being gratefully received in fond memory of Kathleen to the Stroke Association and Queenscourt Hospice.

The family would like to thank all the medical professionals involved in Kathleen's care.

Further enquiries to Newland & Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors. 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, Lancashire. PR4 6RJ Telephone 01772 811165.

TERRY PATRICIA (PATTI)

13th June 2018
passed away peacefully in Silverbirch Lodge
aged 69 years
of Aughton

Loving Wife of David, Much Loved Mum of Andrew and Simon, Much Loved Mother in law of Gail and Nic. Loving Grandma of Grace and Samuel, Beloved Sister and Aunty. Funeral Service at St.Annes R.C. Church Ormskirk on Wednesday 27th June at 10.30 am. followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only by request, but donations if so desired to Cancer Research. Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton Tel: 01695 424888

DEATHS

KEFFORD JEAN

14th June 2018
Passed away peacefully at Hillcroft Residential Care Home, surrounded by her loving family
aged 91 years
of Aughton

Beloved Wife of Gordon, much loved Mum of Nick & Jenny, Dear Mother-in-law of Peter & Lynn, & dearly loved Grandy of Stuart & Robert. Funeral Service at St. Michael's Church, Aughton, on Friday 6th July at 1.00pm., followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. Family flowers only please, but donations if so desired for The Stroke Association. Donations & further enquiries please to Sally Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, L39 5DZ. Tel: 01695 424888

FAIRCLOUGH SUSANNE

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday 6th June 2018
aged 69 years

She will be sadly missed by her Sister Charlotte, Brother Alex and all the family. The Funeral service will be held at West Lancashire Crematorium at 12.15pm on Friday 22nd June 2018. Family flowers only. Charitable donations to the MS Society if so desired.

Further Enquiries to Newland & Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors. 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton. Lancashire. PR4 6RJ. Telephone 01772 811165

DEATHS

MARRIOTT SHEILA

On 31st May 2018
Peacefully in Hospital
Aged 82 years

Beloved Wife of Colin, loving Mum of Lesley and Anthony, dear Mother in Law of Ken and Lisa, much loved Nan of Lucy, Emma, Lewis, Jess and Elissa, and Great Grandma of Lia-Mae, Sophia, Ezmee and Isla. Funeral service and committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 22nd June at 2:40pm. Please wear bright 'clothes' Family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for Alder Hey Children's Charity. Donations and further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel: 01704 214118.

HALSALL JOHN

(JH COMMERCIALS)
Passed away 1st June 2018
Aged 60 years
Of Halsall

Much loved Son of Irene and William (deceased) Brother of David, Sister-In-Law of Mandy and Uncle to Jack, and partner to Jeanette. John will be missed by all who knew him. Funeral Service to take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Friday 29th June 2018 at 12:15pm. Family flowers only by request, however donations if desired are being gratefully received for The North West Air Ambulance and the British Heart Foundation.

Further enquiries to Newland and Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, PR4 6RJ. Telephone 01772 811165

DEATHS

WATKINSON BARRY

Peacefully on 23rd May 2018
aged 71 years

Barry will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service will take place at St John the Baptist Church, Burscough on Wednesday 27th June 2018 at 11am, followed by interment in the Churchyard. Family flowers only please, but the family are gratefully receiving donations for The Woodland Trust. Further enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, Lancashire L40 5UU Tel 01704 897770.

GREGORY ISAAC

15th June 2018
aged 78 years

Much loved Husband of Ann. Dearly loved Father of Graeme, Matthew, Rachel and Becky. Devoted Grandfather to his eight Grandchildren. Funeral service will take place at Ormskirk Parish Church on Wednesday 27th June 2018 at 9.45am followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations to Queenscourt Hospice and Alzheimers Society. Donations to be sent to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128b Burscough St, Ormskirk L39 2EY Tel: 01695 572997

IN MEMORIAM

MORTON DAVID B

28th January 1933

24th June 2012

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SHAW
SYLVIA

The family of the late Sylvia would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of sympathy, cards and donations for the R.N.I.B. received during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to all the staff at Aughton Park Care Home and Parkgate surgery for their care of Sylvia. Thanks also to Rev. Andrew Housley for his kind ministrations and to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

WALTER JOHN NELSON
(Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the afore-mentioned deceased, late of White Moss Farm Moss Lane Skelmersdale Lancashire WN8 9TJ, who died on 02/02/2018, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 24/08/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
ST HELENS LAW LIMITED
19-27 Shaw Street St Helens
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GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Robert Lesbirel trading as Ice2U Ltd of Hare and Hounds 242 Ormskirk Road, Skelmersdale, Lancashire WN8 9AA is applying for a licence to use Unit 5, Greetby Place Skelmersdale, Lancs, LN8 9UL as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.
Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15
APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/0471/FUL Construction of a single storey extension to the existing garage to form a summer house and improvements to the existing driveway and gate access at Harrock Hill Barn, Sanderson Lane,Hilldale.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0472/LBC Listed Building Consent - Construction of a single storey extension to the existing garage to form a summer house and improvements to the existing driveway and gate access at Harrock Hill Barn, Sanderson Lane, Hilldale.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0547/FUL Extensions and alterations to the existing dwelling, with replacement windows and doors and associated hard and soft landscaping works and proposed new carport at The Bungalow, Cross Lane, Halsall.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0608/FUL Alterations (internal) and extensions to the care home at Asmall Hall Care Home, Asmall Lane, Scarisbrick.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0609/LBC Listed Building Consent - Alterations (internal) and extensions to the care home at Asmall Hall Care Home, Asmall Lane, Scarisbrick.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0617/FUL Proposed alterations and extensions to existing bungalow (previously approved application no 2014/0006/FUL 28 Feb 2014) at 2 Wood Lane, Parbold.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.
How information about you will be used
The personal data you provide will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties in processing planning and related applications. Some of the personal information you provide will be published. For further information about this notice or how we use your personal data please see: http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-privacy-notices/level-2-development-management-cil-privacy-notice.aspx and http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/about-the-council/legal-statements-and-foi/privacy-and-data-protection-gdpr.aspx. Hard copies are available on request.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Dated:20th June 2018
Director of Development and Regeneration PDNOT1000

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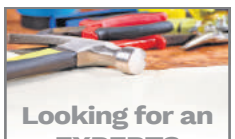

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13 BMW 320 D EFFICIENTDYNAMICS 4DR, metallic black, alloys, A/C, elec pack, 47,000 miles only..... **£10,999**

15 FORD KUGA 1.5 ZETEC, petrol, moondust silver, privacy glass, A/C, alloys, elec pack etc, 27,000 miles only..... **exceptional value at only £11,999**

16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 DIG-T ACENTA X-TRONIC AUTO, midnight black, alloys, A/C, Nissan warranty, big saving..... **£14,999**

16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM TDCI, shadow black, sports pack, boot spoiler, sat nav, climate control, alloys, stunning car..... **£12,999**

16 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI ELITE ESTATE, caspian blue metallic, full leather heated seats, sat nav, alloys, cost new £24,000..... **now only £12,999**

16 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM NAVIGATOR 1.5 TDCI, magnetic grey, sat nav, Bluetooth, climate control, keyless go, CD/radio, zero road tax..... **£11,999**

65 MAZDA 2 1.5 SE 5DR, midnight black, sat nav, A/C, alloys, £20 road tax..... **only £7,999**

65 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5-dr, in Moondust silver, A/C and alloys, CD/Radio and Bluetooth, 15,000 miles only..... **£8,999**

65 FORD FIESTA 1.0 ECOBOOST TITANIUM 3DR, panther black, privacy glass, city pack, sat nav, Bluetooth, zero road tax **£8,499**

15 FORD C-MAX 1.6 ZETEC, moondust silver, 11,000 miles only by one careful owner, alloys, A/C etc..... **exceptional value at £8,999**

15 SKODA OCTAVIA 1.6 TDI ELEGANCE ESTATE CAR, champagne gold, half leather/alcantara trim, sat nav, A/C, CD/radio etc, 19,000 miles only, stunning car, zero tax..... **£12,499**

15 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AUTOMATIC, deep impact blue, alloys, A/C, full electric pack, 2,000 miles only..... **£10,499**

9 SEAT VEHICLE

64 CITROEN DISPATCH SX 2.0 HDI, brilliant silver, 9 seats, A/C, remote locking, electric windows, one owner with full history, outstanding value at only..... **£12,999**

15 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TITANIUM AUTOMATIC, deep impact blue, satellite navigation, air con, CD/radio..... **£9,999**

15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE ECOFLEX 5-Dr, frozen white, half leather seats, parking sensors, A/C, CD/radio, Apple CarPlay..... **only £7,999**

15 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 3-dr, in Race Red, alloys, A/C, Bluetooth etc 12,000 miles only..... **£7,699**

15 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ELITE, star silver, full leather heated seats, massive spec ...**Huge saving off the new price - only £8,999**

15 TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 VVT-1 X-PRESSION 5DR, frozen white, alloys, A/C, Half leather, zero road tax..... **value at £6,999**

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64 FORD S-MAX TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI AUTOMATIC, panther black, privacy glass, keyless go, DAB radio/CD..... **£12,999**

64 VOLVO V40 1.6D CROSSCOUNTRY, ash gold, full leather trim, heated seats, A/C, alloys, £20 tax, 27,000 miles only, superb car at only..... **£10,999**

14 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ELITE, roman bronze, full leather heated seats, alloys, A/C, 35,000 miles only..... **£7,999**

14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC NAVIGATOR, moondust silver, sat nav, appearance pack, Bluetooth, A/C etc..... **£7,999**

14 FORD MONDEO ZETEC BUSINESS EDITION 2.0 TDCI, panther black, sat nav, cruise control, privacy glass, £20 tax..... **£7,999**

62 NISSAN QASHQAI PLUS 2 1.6 N-TEC + in Frozen white, 7 seats, sat nav, panoramic roof, reversing camera, alloys etc..... **£10,999**

62 MINI 1.6 CONVERTIBLE, midnight black, alloys, A/C, CD/radio, 38,000 miles only..... **£7,499**

62 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-TEC, frozen white, sat nav, panoramic roof, reversing camera, A/C..... **£9,999**

62 FORD C-MAX 1.6 TITANIUM, panther black, keyless go, alloys and climate control, 22,000 miles only..... **£7,999**

62 KIA RIO 1.2 RIO 1.2 AIR 5DR, silver, A/C, alloys, full elec pack, 26,000 miles only, £30 tax..... **£5,999**

12 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 ACENTA, frozen white, alloys, A/C, CD/radio, elec pack, 23,000 miles only..... **£6,999**

61 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI BLUEMOTION 5DR, light sapphire blue, A/C, alloys, CD etc, zero road tax, 62,000 miles only..... **value at £6,999**

11 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR 1.1 AUTOMATIC, Jupiter red metallic, A/C, full elec pack, 9,000 miles only..... **£5,499**

60 HONDA JAZZ 1.4 Si 5DR, midnight black, alloys, A/C, remote locking, CD/radio etc, 31,000 miles only..... **£6,999**

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2015 (15) NISSAN NEW QASHQAI 1.2 ACENTA, in ink blue, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES £12,995
2015 (15) FORD B-MAX 1.6 TITANIUM AUTOMATIC, in burnished glow, A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND MILES £9,995
2015 (15) VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 LIMITED EDITION, in red/black, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY NINETEEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2015 (64) SKODA FABIA 1.25 ELEGANCE 5DR, in met red, with full spec, ONLY NINE THOUSAND MILES £8,995
2015 (64) VAUXHALL NEW MERIVA 1.4 TECH LINE, in bronze, with A/C, e/pack, cc, alloys, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES £8,495
2014 (64) VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 SE PETROL, silver lightning, A/C, full leather, e/pack, alloys, Bluetooth, CD, ONLY EIGHT THOUSAND MILES £10,995
2014 (64) TOYOTA AURIS ICON 5DR, in vermillion, with A/C, e/pack, Bluetooth, alloys, CD, DAB radio, ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND MILES £9,995
2014 (64) PEUGEOT 2008 ACTIVE 1.2 CROSSOVER ESTATE, in bronze, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, Bluetooth, CC, CD etc, ONLY FIVE THOUSAND MILES £9,695
2014 (64) PEUGEOT 108 ALLURE 5DR, in red, A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY ELEVEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2014 (64) TOYOTA AYGO X-PRESSION 5DR, in met grey, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY SEVEN THOUSAND MILES £7,995
2014 (64) SKODA CITIGO SPECIAL EDITION 5DR, black, with A/C, sat nav, Bluetooth, e/pack, alloys, CD, ONLY EIGHT THOUSAND MILES £6,495
2014 (14) FORD B-MAX ZETEC, in moondust silver, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY TWELVE THOUSAND MILES £8,495
2014 (14) VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2 JAM, in met red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, ONLY FIFTEEN THOUSAND MILES £6,995
2012 (62) FIAT 500 LOUNGE, in white, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 29,000 miles £5,695
2011 (61) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 1.6 PETROL, in wicked red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD, ONLY TWENTY FOUR THOUSAND MILES £8,495
2010 (60) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 1.4, in wicked red, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 31,000 miles £4,995
2010 (59) RENAULT TWINGO 1.2 EXTREME, in silver with ABS, e/pack, CD etc, only 33,000 miles £2,995
2009 (09) PEUGEOT 107 VERVE, in black, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 62,000 miles £2,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN 5DR, in silver lightning, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 55,000 miles £3,995
2008 (58) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA in cafe latte, with A/C, e/pack, alloys, CD etc, only 53,000 miles £3,995

I've spent days living and breathing Morris Minors!

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER
www.lifeoncars.co.uk

MORRIS Minors. I feel like I've spent the past few days living and breathing them – but that's no bad thing.

I've been helping to put together a 12-page newspaper supplement to mark the Moggy's 70th anniversary, and apart from my eyes going square from all the proof-reading in front of computer screens, a couple of things have really jumped out.

Chiefly, it's one of the few truly old-school classic cars (by which I mean ones with chokes, chrome bumpers and an appetite for Castrol 20w50) that you can still pick up for buttons, and it'll be welcomed into virtually any car show across the land. The other thing is that because it was the first British car to sell over a million, and with roughly 14,000 of them still on Britain's roads today, virtually everyone with even the vaguest interest in old cars has a Morris Minor story. Including me.

Even though I've never owned a Moggy, I very nearly bought one at the age of 16 – well, technically *we* very nearly bought one, as I would have been part of a car-loving consortium of petrolheads too young and too skint to know any better.

The Morris in question was a slightly crusty two-door 1000, being advertised by a chap in Ainsdale for 'offers'. Four of us got distracted enough from our GCSE revision to seriously think about sticking in an offer for it, and things ended up going far enough that two of us ended up going to view the car, without a clue about remedying rotting sills or replacing its kingpins. It was almost certainly a long and expensive restoration in waiting, but in my head it'd be up and running in six months, perhaps with its 1098cc A-series lump replaced with an MG Midget's engine and some electronic ignition to make it go as well as it'd eventually look.

In the end the logistics of sharing a car between four people – namely, whose name would go on the registration document – undid the deal long before we put a proper offer in and the car went to someone older and more sensible, but I've always had a soft spot for the Moggy ever since. It is one of those cars that seems to go on and on, propelled by a legion of people who love fettling with them on Sunday mornings and taking them to shows. Anyone see that scene in *Blade Runner 2049* where one person still has a Volkswagen Beetle in an impossibly futuristic Los Angeles? I imagine it'd be the same if they'd set it in Liverpool, only with a Morris 1000, of course. Probably with me still trying to buy it.

David Simister is the editor of Classic Car Weekly.

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66 KIA PICANTO 1.0 AIR 5DR, white, PAS, E/W, central locking, air con, 1 lady owner, 14,000 miles £6,395
64 CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE 1.6 HDI VTR, wheelchair adapted, 16,000 miles, Gleneagles conversion, met silver £8,995
64 RENAULT CAPTUR QUE 'S' 1.5 DCI, black, white roof, sat nav, upgraded alloys, PAS, E/W, r/locking, A/C, £30 tax, 23,000 miles £8,695
64 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 1.4 T AUTO 3DR, white, PAS, E/W, central locking, A/C, alloys, 40,000 miles, service history £6,995
60 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 5DR 2.0 CDTI, black, PAS, E/W, central locking, ABS, A/C, CD, service history, great value £3,495
61 MAZDA 2 1.3 TS2 3DR, met grey, PAS, E/W, remote locking, A/C, ABS, service history, 70,000 miles £3,695
60 PEUGEOT 207 S, met silver, PAS, E/W, remote locking, A/C, ABS, service history, 62,000 miles £2,995
59 PEUGEOT 308 5-dr SPORT 1.6 HDI, met grey, PAS, E/W, r/l, A/C, alloys, s/history. High miles, low price £2,195
03 MINI COOPER 1.6 5-Speed, black with white roof, 17 inch alloys, PAS, e/w, c/locking, CD, half leather, service history £2,095
08 BOOM TRIKE LOW RIDER CHOPPER, 1.6 Petrol. VW engine. 28K, metallic red, 3 pannier boxes on rear, lots of chrome. Mint condition .. £10,995
02 HARLEY DAVIDSON V ROD, 1200cc, Centenary model, Aluminium finish, only 891 miles £8,995
06 VW TOURAN 1.9 TDI 7 SEATER, met blue, PAS, E/W, central locking, ABS, A/C, h/miles £2,295
02 SAAB CONVERTIBLE 9-3 LPT, met silver, black leather, PAS, e/roof, A/C, alloys £1,995
01 X MERCEDES SLK 230 K AUTO, white, black leather, auto, PAS, electric roof, alloys, convertible £1,995
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04 SAAB 9-3 AERO CONVERTIBLE 2.0T, expresso black, leather, electric hood, E/W, C/L, A/C, alloys, service history £2,395
56 VW BEETLE CONVERTIBLE 1400 CC LUNA, metallic blue, beige trim, PAS, E/W, remote locking, alloys £1,695
54 FORD FIESTA 1.4 LX 3DR, in black, PAS, E/W, A/C, C/L alloys, low mileage 52,000 miles £1,595
04 VAUXHALL VECTRA ESTATE 1.9 TDI, met blue, PAS, E/W, central locking, ABS, alloys, air con, half leather £1,295
05 VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 3DR 1.3 DIESEL, blue, PAS, ABS £1,195
54 VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 5DR DIESEL 1.3, 5spd, PAS, E/W, C/L, 74k £1,195
04 VAUXHALL COMBO VAN 1700, 5spd, PAS, C/L, side door £1,095
55 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 3DR, 5spd, E/W, C/L, alloys, A/C, ABS,CD £995
56 CHEVROLET TACUMA SX MPV, 1600CC, 5SPD, met blue £995
53 ROVER 75 CLASSIC SE, 5SPD, ABS, A/C, 64,000 miles £995
52 VAUXHALL OMEGA CDX AUTO 2.6, leather, E/roof, 65,000 miles £995

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Offer valid until 1 July 2018 at participating dealers only. Private retail customers only. Finance provided by Nissan Finance, PO Box 495, Watford WD17 1BR. Subject to status. Guarantees and Indemnities may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding Channel Islands). *Model shown is the Juke Acenta. Monthly payment is based on customer deposit of £5,078.47. 36 monthly payments of £149 and optional final payment of £6,157.53. ^Model shown is New Qashqai N-Connecta. Monthly payment is based on customer deposit of £5,821.31, 36 monthly payments of £199 and optional final payment of £10,743.69. Juke Acenta shown with optional Vivid Blue paint at £745. New Qashqai N-Connecta with Glass Roof Pack shown with optional Vivid Blue paint at £745. Minimum customer deposit of 25% on New Qashqai N-Connecta with Glass Roof Pack and Juke Acenta. Our dealership introduces customers to a limited number of finance providers including Nissan Finance. We may receive a commission from the finance provider for the introduction. Offers based on 10,000 miles pa, excess mileage 8p per mile. †3 year/60,000 miles (whichever comes first) manufacturer warranty, excludes wear and tear. Terms apply. **Pan-European breakdown services provided by RAC Motoring Services. ***£500 Nissan deposit contribution available when you test drive the New Nissan Qashqai and Nissan Juke. Offer is in conjunction with existing Nissan finance deals. For full T&Cs, see www.nissan-offers.co.uk/termsandconditions. Vehicle price includes first registration fee and 12 months' road fund licence. Always drive carefully and attentively. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing, in accordance with 2004/3/EC and intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results. (Optional equipment, maintenance, driving behaviour, road and weather conditions may affect the official results.) Information correct at time of print. Model shots shown are for illustration purposes only. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

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Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
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47 Monthly Payments	£259.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,959.00
Interest Charges	£2,723.37
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£22,891.00
APR Representative	5.9%

Brand New Vauxhall Viva

1.0 SE A/C

£500 Minimum Part Exchange

For just £159 per month | £159 customer deposit | £500 minimum part ex

Cash Price	£10,130.37
Customer Deposit	£159.00
Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£9,471.37
47 Monthly Payments	£159.00
Optional Final Payment	£3,515.00
Interest Charges	£1,516.63
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£11,647.00
APR Representative	5.9%

Brand New Vauxhall Crossland X

1.2 82PS SE

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Customer Deposit	£498.00
Deposit Allowance	£1,000.00
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Amount of Credit	£13,397.14
47 Monthly Payments	£199.00
Optional Final Payment	£5,914.00
Interest Charges	£1,869.86
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£17,266.00
APR Representative	4.9%

Brand New Vauxhall Astra

1.0 ecoTEC SRi 5dr

£2,500 Finance Deposit Allowance

For just £259 per month | £259 customer deposit | £500 minimum part ex

Cash Price	£18,987.86
Customer Deposit	£259.00
Deposit Allowance	£2,500.00
Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£15,728.86
47 Monthly Payments	£259.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,104.00
Interest Charges	£2,548.14
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£21,536.00
APR Representative	5.9%

Brand New Vauxhall Grandland X

1.2T SE

£1,200 Finance Deposit Allowance

For just £289 per month | £289 customer deposit | £500 minimum part ex

Cash Price	£21,300
Customer Deposit	£289.00
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Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£19,311.00
47 Monthly Payments	£289.89
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13 **VW** GOLF 1.4 TFSI 5DR AUTO, silver/gold, 40,000 miles.....**£8995**
57 **JAGUAR** XJ 2.7 DIESEL SOVEREIGN , silver blue, cream leather, FSH, Full MoT..**£6995**
55 **BMW** X5 3.0 TD SPORT AUTO, silver, black leather, panoramic roof, FSH..**£5250**
60 **SEAT** EXEO 2.0 TDI SALOON, silver, FSH.....**£4695**
11 **VAUXHALL** ASTRA 1.4 SXI 5DR, silver, alloys.....**£4495**
10 **FORD** FIESTA 1.6 TDCI ZETEC S, electric blue metallic, superb car.....**£4250**
59 **ALFA ROMEO** MITO LUSSO 3-dr, black metallic, 61k.....**£3295**
07 **HONDA** CIVIC TYPE S GT 1.8 3DR, IN BLUE.....**£3250**
10 **FORD** MONDEO DIESEL ESTATE ZETEC, in black.....**£2995**
10 **NISSAN** MICRA 1.2 PURE DRIVE, black.....**£2995**
04 **KIA** SORENTO 2.5 TD MANUAL, silver, leather, FSH.....**£2795**
08 **FORD** FOCUS ZETEC 5DR, in silver.....**£2695**
58 **FIAT** BRAVO DIESEL, in gold, 5DR.....**£2595**

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08 **FORD** FOCUS 1.6 TITANIUM AUTOMATIC, in black, 60,000 miles, superb...**£3595**
56 **VW** JETTA 1.9 DIESEL AUTO, saloon, silver, 79,000 miles.....**£2495**
07 **PEUGEOT** 207 AUTO, black, 60,00 miles.....**£2295**
05 **RENAULT** GRAND ESPACE 3.0 DIESEL AUTO, 7 seats, half leather, silver, sat nav....**£2295**

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12 **TRANSIT** CONNECT, long & high roof, in white.....**NO VAT £3495**
05 **RENAULT** KANGOO VAN, in white, 74,000 miles.....**NO VAT £1495**
54 **FIAT** DUCATO, short wheel base, panel van.....**NO VAT £1495**

08 **FORD** FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 5-DR, in silver.....**£2495**
99 **MERCEDES** SLK 230 COMPRESSER COUPE AUTO, silver, leather seats.....**£2495**
04 **TOYOTA** RAV 4 XTS, blue, manual, alloys, sunroof.....**£2495**
59 **PEUGEOT** 207 1.4 3DR, in silver, 73000 miles.....**£2295**
07 **VAUXHALL** ASTRA 1.6 SXI 16V 3DR, silver, 42,000 miles.....**£2250**
57 **MAZDA** 5 2.0 DIESEL SALOON, in blue.....**£1995**
55 **VOLVO** V50 DIESEL ESTATE, grey metallic, full leather.....**£1995**
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2015	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec Turbo 998 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 3 Door Hatchback	Shadow Black	10600	£8,795
2015	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium Turbo 998 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 5 Door Hatchback	Panther Black	30000	£8,995
2013	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium 998 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 5 Door Hatchback	Midnight Sky	35000	£7,995
2012	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec 1242 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 3 Door Hatchback	Moondust Silver	35500	£5,995
2017	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec 1242 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 5 Door Hatchback	Frozen White	9800	£9,995
2014	Ford	Fiesta	Zetec 1242 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 5 Door Hatchback	Frozen White	14000	£8,295
2015	Ford	Fiesta	Titanium Turbo 998 Petrol Manual 5 Gears 5 Door Hatchback	Frozen White	17000	£9,995
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2017	Ford	Focus	St-line Tdci 1499 Diesel Manual 6 Gears Estate	Deep Impact Blue	13500	£14,995
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Gary Keedy in action against Ainsdale. Picture by Roger Green.

Mixed weekend for Burscough who stay bottom of the table

BURSCOUGH sit bottom of the First Division table although their seven wicket defeat at Prestatyn on Saturday was followed by a seven wicket home win over Birkenhead Park in their game in hand on Sunday.

On Saturday they were dismissed for 76 with Peter Cassidy taking remarkable figures of 18.3-9-28-9, the hosts then raced to 78-3 to wrap up victory with Ryan Westwell unbeaten on 51*.

On Sunday Chris Andrews weighed in with a superb spell of 11-5-17-7 to dismiss the visitors for just 56, allowing captain Lee Berrie 36* to lead the side to 57-3 and wrap up a much needed win.

Southport & Birkdale continued their First Division promotion push with a four wicket home win over rivals Ainsdale, ***writes Glenn Wallworth.***

The visitors opted to bat first and were soon dismissed by the home side's three pronged spin attack for 74 with skipper Andy Barlow top scoring with 22, whilst Gary Keedy 4-8, Chris Cunningham 3-12 and captain Chris Firth 3-26 took all ten wickets.

In reply, Bradley Yates went past 450 league runs for the season with 34, before leaving it to Harry May 7* off 50 balls and Cunningham 16* off 15 balls to take the hosts to victory on 76-6, with Stephen Lucas taking 5-34.

Fleetwood Hesketh bounced back to winning ways with a four wicket home win over Wigan, the visitors were asked to bat and were dismissed for 113 with former New Zealand batsman Aaron Redmond top scoring with 39, whilst South African Gavin Dickenson went past 30 league wickets for the season with 7-37. In reply, Andrew Watts 36 and Neil Rimmer 28 laid the foundation for Benish Shukla 5* and Derek Sykes 15* to see the hosts to victory on 114-6.

Fine all round effort by Hartley helps Ormskirk secure five wicket victory

ON a day disrupted by heavy showers, Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Ormskirk's recent good run continued as they climbed up to third place with a five wicket home win against Highfield, *writes Glenn Wallworth.*

The visitors were asked to bat and dismissed for 150 with Darshan Misal top scoring with 31, whilst returning paceman Gavin Griffiths took 3-45 and Tom Hartley spun his way to 4-29

In reply, Hartley topped off a fine individual performance with 58, Alex Rankin made 29 and John Armstrong 25 as the hosts wrapped up victory on 151-5.

Premier Division leaders Northern suffered a 78 run defeat at Lytham.

The hosts were put in to bat and thanks to Lancashire pair Steven Croft 78 and Toby Lester 42 were able to post 175 up on the board, with Tom Sephton once again leading the way with the ball with 4-53, whilst Justin Snow weighed in with 3-30.

In reply, Liam Grey 22 and Snow 21 were the only players to reach twenty as the league leaders were bowled out for just 97.

Second placed Formby were held to a draw at home against Bootle, the visitors were asked to bat and thanks to Will Purser 58, Sam Kershaw 36 and Craig Prince 21 were able to declare their innings on 191-8 off 55 overs, with Lancashire's Stephen Parry taking 3-30. Due to the weather the hosts only got 19 overs in return and ended on 66-2 with Tim Smithies unbeaten on 31*.

Openers Vishal Tripathi and Will Hale gave Bootle a good start in the following day's Ray Digman Trophy quarter-final at Beech Walk with a partnership of 55, and further sound knocks from Sam Kershaw (55 not out), Neil Williams (38) and Purser (33) led to a total of 231-7 when the innings closed.

Despite an attacking 40 from Ben Smith, Leigh never looked likely to overhaul the requirement and were all out for 138 in the 35th over to lose by 93 runs.

Tonight (Wednesday) Bootle host Northern in the Vitality National Club T20 knockout at Wadham Road and on Saturday travel to Highfield for a Premier League fixture.

This weekend's local LDCC fixture's (1pm start): Highfield v Bootle, New Brighton v Formby, Northern v Colwyn Bay, Ormskirk v Wallasey, Ainsdale v Prestatyn, Burscough v Sefton Park, Fleetwood Hesketh v Newton le Willows, Orrell Red Triangle v Southport & Birkdale, Maghull v Hightown St Mary's and Southport Trinity v Old Xaverians, whilst on Sunday Wigan host Southport & Birkdale in a rearranged match from the opening weekend of the season.

Hightown match ended early by rain

IN the Second Division, Southport Trinity suffered a 20 run defeat at Sutton who recovered from 61-5 to post 161-8 declared, thanks to Jack York 43, Gary Greener 33 and Adam Onion 32, whilst Luke Falkiner took 3-50 with the ball.

In reply the visitors were dismissed for 141 with the dynamic Phil Buck caressing his way to 47, Jake Sunderland making 27 and Liam Simms hitting an unbeaten 18* as Trinity paid the price from a middle order collapse that saw them lose five wickets for just four runs.

Hightown St Mary's had reached 33-3 in their home match against St Helens Town when play was abandoned leaving the sides with five points each.

Former Linnets star Bell joins coaching staff at Skelmersdale

ONE of the stars of Burscough's famous 2005/06 FA Cup run Karl Bell has moved across the local divide to join two former Burscough managers (Dave Powell and Chris Stammers) on the coaching staff at Skelmersdale United, *writes Neil Leatherbarrow.*

We understand Karl will take up the position of Assistant Manager/Coach with Dave Powell's team.

Karl carved his place into Victoria Park folklore on November 5th 2005 when as captain he scored the first goal in the Linnets 3-2 victory over Gillingham in the FA Cup 1st round tie a game that was shown on Match of the Day, giving Burscough a 1-0 lead at the time.

He played for Burscough for three seasons mainly in the middle of defence before moving on early in the 2006/07 season when appearances became limited under Liam Watson's reign at the club.

Last season Karl was manager of the West Cheshire League club Vauxhall Motors who will next season move into the North-West Counties First Division. However he will move up even further into the Evo-Stik Division One North, where he will renew his acquaintance with Skem assistant Chris Stammers with whom he worked at AFC Liverpool before joining Vauxhall in November 2016. Chris was Burscough's assistant manager when they took on Gillingham on that famous day.

Kirkby based Karl can also list Accrington Stanley, Ashton United and Prescot Cables among the clubs he appeared for in his playing days.

Skelmersdale United supporters will also be interested to know that former captain and hero of Tommy Lawson's promotion team Rob McIntosh is making a comeback from retirement. After his eighteen month break he has agreed to sign for former Skem assistant manager Brian Richardson who is manager of Prescot Cables.

Although we are still waiting for both clubs to publish their pre-season fixture schedule, our local clubs have announced their season ticket prices for 2018/19 and importantly contact details to buy them.

Skelmersdale season tickets will be £120 for Adults and £60 for Concessions and can be purchased by phoning 01695 575958.

Karl Bell in action for Burscough in their FA Cup match against Gillingham.

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